

Country Life—February 23, 1956

PROBLEMS OF MARGINAL FARMING COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday

FEBRUARY 23, 1956

TWO SHILLINGS



THE SOUTHDOWN FOXHOUNDS AT CLAYTON MILL, SUSSEX.

G. F. Allen

classified properties

BUSINESSES AND HOTELS

EASTERN COUNTIES. Rapidly progressing and active Agricultural Contractors. Business in thriving rural area, with agency for Farm Fuels, Lubricating oils and spraying chemicals. Post war workshop and comprehensive selection of modern implements and plant. Also attractive Georgian Residence with 5 bedrooms etc. and cottage for staff. Price including Freehold £30,000. Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, LEAKE & BUTLER, 29, Hanover Square, W.1. (Mayfair 3771).

OVERSEAS

SOUTH AFRICA. 6,000 acre cattle farm, Delightful climate, undulating country, good grazing, well watered and well fenced. Large well appointed modern house, also Manager's house, gardens and orchards. 35 Miles Johannesburg. Full particulars apply Box 9732, c/o Country Life.

FOR SALE

CAMBRIDGE. In favoured residential area close to "The Backs," superior Detached Residence. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices, 6 bedrooms, bathroom etc., also small self-contained flat. Price £7,500. Offers considered. Apply H. W. DRAKE, Chartered Surveyor, 9, Guildhall Street, Cambridge.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARTER ACTER, 16 miles Bath, with splendid views over Mendip Hills, 23 Rec. Kitchen, etc. 4 Beds, Dressing & Linen rooms. Mod. Bathroom, Sep. W.C. Extensive outbuildings, inc. 2 Garages. Garden, grounds & Paddock, in all 41 acres. Further land also available. At an extreme attractive figure. Full details & photo from COOPER & TANSEY LTD., 14, North Parade, Frome.

DANBURY, ESSEX. Over 300 ft. up, commanding wide views. Modern house of quality, with 3 Reception, 6 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, standing in garden of two acres, garage 3 cars. Studio etc. At present in two self-contained occupations but easily reinstated. Price £7,500 with possession. Apply KEMBLEY, 19, Western Road, Romford (Tel. 1921).

DEVON (South). Charming bungalow residence with tiny beach at the water's edge of Frogmore Creek in the Kingsbridge Estuary. Brick built, roughcast & tiled, modern, main electricity & telephone, 3 well fitted bedrooms, luxurious bathroom, separate W.C.'s. Large lounge, sun parlour, model kitchen with "Aga." Lovely views from every window. Garden and 4 acre paddock. Unique and secluded position. Immediate possession. £6,000 or offer. HEWITT & CO., 19, Barnfield Road, Exeter.

HAMPSHIRE (North). Small cottage-style house of charm within daily travel London. 3 Bed, 2 Rec, kitchen, bath, twin houses, Garage. Main sheet and water-septic tank, tel. Attractive garden 3 acres. Liverty stables 4 miles. £3,000. Box 9725.

MARLOW-ON-THAMES. Unique opportunity to acquire reconstructed detached residence adjoining river and on town outskirts. Superb position 3 acre garden, main road frontage and possible business user. Attractive timber elevations, with 3 bedrooms, dining room, very spacious lounge, equipped kitchen and bathroom. All services. Recommended at £1,650 by SIMONS OF MARLOW, 54, High Street, Marlow 2.

GARDENING

CLIFF CHESTNUT strong, durable fencing on wire galvanised and coated. Also Walnuts and various fruiting trees. 100, G. AVON, 392, Gloucester Road, Cheltenham.

COMPLETE GARDEN CASES. New Garden Sets. Pea & Bean Cases, Cactus beds, rhubarbs, strawberries, Apple trees, etc. Catalogue free. SUTTONS, Newmarket, Suffolk. Chichester, Sussex, Kent.

CROP LIFE DRC, composted stable manure, carriage paid, £1 per sack. Carrots approx. 6.5 sp. 16. Instructions with address prices in section. LIPPERT MANURE CO. LTD., Brook Road, Upper Basildon. Tel. 368.

ECLIPSE PEAT is specially produced in different grades to suit different soils. If you have heavy clay soil in a field nearby send there is a special grade for such. Write us for full particulars. ECLIPSE PEAT CO. LTD., Ashurst, nr. Bridgewater, Somerset.

FLOWERING TREES. Shrubs, Roses, Fruit trees, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, All highest quality. Grown on microscope, colour now. Catalogue free from CARBERY NURSERIES, 2003, Lexington, Hants.

GARDEN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION. Plans and services prepared for all kinds of garden designs and construction. R.H.S. awards include 20 gold medals, the Lawrence Memorial medal and the Sherwood Cup. Write for particulars to GEOFFREY WHITELOCK, The Nurseries, Knockholt, Knockholt 2087.

GLODIOLUS RUFFLED MINIATURES. Name, Butters, Smokers, most exhibition Catalogue stamp. D. & D. PIGGOT, Furze Hill Nurseries, Wimborne, Dorset.

GARDENS designed and constructed, altered or renovated by expert staff in any locality. Shrubs and plants from our extensive nursery. JOHN WATERER, SONS & CRISP, LTD. Landscape Department, The Floral Mile, Twyford, Berks. Tel. Wargrave 224-225.

HAYLING IS. Overlooking Channel & Spithead. Quiet position. As one house, or 2 self-contained flats. Extra site & garage £1,550. Box 9726.

IRELAND. BATTERSBY & CO., Estate Agents (Est. 1842), F.A.T., Westminster Street, Dublin. Sporting properties and Residential Farms available for sale or letting.

S. CORNWALL. Megashire. Modern guest House with magnificent sea and valley views. 7 Bedrooms, B & C Kitchen with 4 Ovens, Aga. Garages for 3 cars. Main Water & Electricity. This freehold property is in excellent condition. Full particulars from LITTLE Tremaine Guest House, Megashire.

SUSSEX. 3 miles SW of Horsham. Exceptional small Residence, combining period charm with every modern luxury and convenience. In immaculate order. Full central heating, 2-3 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, ultra-modern kitchen, 2 separate toilets. Fine outbuildings, including garages and stabling. Charming garden, paddock, 11 acres. Rural situation without isolation. Superb south view. £9,650. DR. DA FANO, Broome End, Shirley, Sussex. Cuckfield 245 after 2 p.m. Viewing exclusively by appointment.

TIME VALLEY. Unspoilt loveliest Worseshire. Charming medium-sized Georgian Manor House beautiful walled setting. 3 rec. model kitchen, Aga & Aga range, 6 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main elec. Splendid outbuildings. Matured garden areas. £6,000. Soc. Agents: LEAR & LEAE, Promenade, Cheltenham. Tel. 3442.

ESTATES, FARMS AND SMALLHOLDINGS

BARGAIN. Ireland. Compact and up-to-date residence, with or without land, in good Hunting/Fishing/Shooting area selling at sacrifice price because owner cannot run two properties 100 miles apart at same time. Apply LOUISA B. JOYCE, Auctioneer, Francis Street, Galway.

DARTMOOR. Attract, 50 acre property mentioned. Doomsday. Modernised 6 bedroomed house run as profitable summer Guest House, garden, trout stream. Farm house & land. Vac posh shortly. Box 9725.

HERTS. London 30 miles. Charming Elizabethan Farmhouse with about 3 acres and useful outbuildings. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, etc. 2 spacious reception rooms, kitchen (Rayburn Cooker) etc. and BENTHALES HERITAGE RD., Hitchin, Herts. Telephone Hitchin 3424.

FISHINGS & SHOOTINGS

FISHING. To let or lease in the River Kennet near Marlborough. Apply CROW'S ESTATE OFFICE, Burghill Wharf, St. Marlborough.

WALREDDON MANOR and former REDFORD ESTATE FISHING RIGHTS ON THE RIVERS TAVY AND WALKHAM.

A limited number of rods to let on approximately 10 miles of fishing. Season and short period tickets. Salmon, sea trout, brown trout. Soc. Agent BARKLEYS, 15, Duke Street, Laystac.

CONSULTANTS

BRIAN SANDEMAN & COMPANY.

A unique and personal service is offered to those SEEKING OR SELLING a property in JERSEY or S.E. ENGLAND. Properties may often be viewed in your own home, avoiding those wasted journeys. Write: Wayside, Acre Lane, East Grinstead.

CONSULTANTS

MARK PHILLIPS, late of BRADLEY'S for elegantly tailored suits and top coats at reasonable prices. Your own cloth if desired. 21, George St., Baker St., W.I. WEILWICK 7833.

THE Marquis of ... is very satisfied with his suit.

Just one of the many testimonials to our unique Suit Cutting Service. We tailor cloths from measurements taken from customer's garments in John Peter Tweeds and quality worsted sailings. Prices—Suits from £12, JACKETS & OVERCOATS £9. Dinner suits £4.25.

Write for patterns and particulars. REDMAYNE, 12, Wigton, Cumberland. Established 1868.

FURS

SUCH SENSIBLE PRICES. Fair dealing, trustworthy, entirely English Furs, established

25 years. New furs of originally and distinction. Your outmoded furs part exchanged, purchased or imaginatively and inexpensively remodeled.

WILLIAMS & HUTCHINS, LTD. 8, Hanover Square, W.I. MAYfair 312-4110.

KNITWEAR

HAND CROCHETED circular woollen shawls

Day or Night wear. 25/- Approval Box 9723.

HAND KNITTED jumpers, cardigans, twinsets, bedackets, etc. etc. Delightful designs, reasonable prices. 0.8s and unusual sizes in stock also orders received in 1 week. Send for Particulars on appro. KNITTING SHOP, Broadway, Wiltshire. Phone 3225.

PURE WOOL ANGORA BERETS, beautifully

hand made. White, blue, black, lemon, green, pink, red, beige, tan. 15/- 11d post free. ESTELLE

10, South Molton St., W.I. May 1625.

WANTED

GOODMAN & MANN

SURREY & LONDON.
The following type of property is WANTED URGENTLY for very genuine cash buyers, three of whom are mentioned below.

MRS. B. T. A first class modern bungalow with a view, up to about 20 acres if possible. 6-7 beds, 3 recs, 2-3 bath, cent. heat. Anywhere within easy reach of following stations: Cudham, Orpington, Leatherhead, Dorking, Clapham, Guildford. I.P.T.O. £20,000. Int. price of no importance for right property. Usual commission req'd.

MRS. P. K. A house with character which must have complete cent. heat. Period or modern, 4 beds, 3 recs, 2-3 bath, cent. heat. Preferably Leatherhead, Guildford triangle. VIEWING I.P.T.O. £10,000. Int. usual commission req'd.

FOR A CLIENT. A small character house with 4 recs, beds, with up to 2 acres. Must have cent. heat and staff cottage. Within 1 hour daily travel London. Approx. £12,000 available. (No Commission req'd). Owners who are contemplating selling (with posn. up to approx. 9 months ahead) or their Agents, are invited to send details to the Auctioneers' offices, 23 High St., Cobham, Surrey. Cobham 3658 9, or 2, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. GLOUCESTER 19167, 7.

HANTS, DORSET. small cottage, 2-3 bed, bath, by orn. sea. Box 9733.

HOUSE in Mid-Sussex, adjacent good village (Lindfield preferred) for occupation in summer 1956. 2-3 reception, a double bed and dressing room. Box 9719.

PREMISES WANTED. Suitable for Riding School with living accommodation. Within 20 mile radius of London. Box 9736.

REQUIRED by Private Advertiser. Furnished house with 4-5 bedrooms, 2-3 Reception Rooms etc. July-September, in Middleton Peplow area of West Sussex. Must be within reasonable access of sea. Tennis Court an advantage. BARCLAY, 22 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

URGENTLY WANTED TO PURCHASE in S.E. Somerset. A compact Country Residence of character, 6-8 beds, 2-3 baths, not extensive, easily maintained garden and paddock up to 20 acres. Good price paid for really first-class property. Details in confidence, for client, to R. B. TAYLOR & SONS, Estate Agents, Yeovil (Tel. 2074).

WANTED for client large freehold

Thames, Chilterns, N.W. London Area or S.E. AMBORE APPLEGATE, 7, New Sq., Lincoln's Inn, W.C.

ESTATE AGENTS, DIRECTORY

GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD

specialists in the small Period Country House, Farms and Cottages of character throughout the south-western counties. Lt. Headland, Yeovil (Tel. 4342).

SIDMOUTH AND EAST DEVON.

Coast and Country. Detailed, reliable particulars. Messrs. SANDERS, Devonshire House, Sidmouth (Tel. Sidmouth 41, 1341).

SUSSEX. Specialists in Country Residences and Estates throughout the County. BRADLEY & VAUGHAN of Haywards Heath (Tel. 91, 3 lines).

LEAVE. Furnished Cottages, flats, East Sussex. From 21 guineas. SWAIN, Robertsbridge, S.E.

DRESSMAKERS AND TAILORS

MARK PHILLIPS, late of BRADLEY'S for

elegantly tailored suits and top coats at reasonable prices. Your own cloth if desired. 21, George St., Baker St., W.I. WEILWICK 7833.

THE Marquis of ... is very satisfied with his suit.

Just one of the many testimonials to our unique Suit Cutting Service. We tailor cloths from measurements taken from customer's garments in John Peter Tweeds and quality worsted sailings. Prices—Suits from £12, JACKETS & OVERCOATS £9. Dinner suits £4.25.

Write for patterns and particulars. REDMAYNE,

12, Wigton, Cumberland. Established 1868.

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SUCH SENSIBLE PRICES. Fair dealing, trust-

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25 years. New furs of originally and distinc-

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WILLIAMS & HUTCHINS, LTD.

8, Hanover Square, W.I.

MAYfair 312-4110.

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HAND CROCHETED circular woollen shawls

Day or Night wear. 25/- Approval Box 9723.

HAND KNITTED jumpers, cardigans, twin-

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signs, reasonable prices. 0.8s and unusual sizes

in stock also orders received in 1 week. Send for Particulars on appro. KNITTING SHOP, Broadway, Wiltshire. Phone 3225.

PURE WOOL ANGORA BERETS, beautifully

hand made. White, blue, black, lemon, green,

pink, red, beige, tan. 15/- 11d post free. ESTELLE

10, South Molton St., W.I. May 1625.

WANTED FOR DEMOLITION

DEMOLITION CLEARANCE. Watch it come down. By SVB BISHOP & SONS, 282, Bargate Rd., London, S.E.12. Tel. LEE Green 7755. Old Property bought for salvage.

FURNITURE REMOVERS AND DEPOSITORIES

HAMPTONS of New Bond Street for expert removals storage and shipping abroad. All staff fully experienced. Depository Inglate, Place, Queenstown Road, Battersea Park, S.W.8. MACaulay 4444.

HOUSEHOLD REMOVALS ABROAD Blue-illustrated booklet of information, £1, 10/-, free on request. PITT & SCOTT, LTD., 1-3, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C.4. Passages arranged.

JOSEPH MAY, LTD., move promptly, expertly, cheerfully. Return loads cut costs. Estimates free from 31-32 Whitfield Street, London, W.I. (Tel. MU 2411).

PICKFORDS. Removers and Storers. Part lots or single articles. Weekly delivery everywhere. Overseas removals. Complete service. Branches in all large towns. Head Office, 102, Blackstock Road, London, N.4. CAN. 4444.

REMOVALS to all parts are safe in the hands of DAVIDS, TURNER & CO., LTD. Established 1876. 4, Lower Belgrave St., London, S.W.1. SLOANE 3455. Air removals to the Continent a speciality. Send for brochure.

TO LET

BEAUTIFUL THAMES SITE. Fishing, Boating, Swimming. Between Oxford, Henley. 4 berth exceptional caravans. All conveniences. MARTIN, Cobbs Cottage, North Moreton, Berks.

FOUR ROOMED BUNGALOW, all modern conveniences, vegetables, milk supplied, rural Ireland, North Cork. Terms reasonable. Box 9727.

Furnished

DORSET. To let furnished attractive modern house, 3 reception, 4 bedrooms, bath, w.c., garage, garden, orchard, milk delivery, cent. heat. Shooting available. Apply SANCTUARY & SONS, Bridport 21674.

ISLE OF ARRAN, SCOTLAND. To let, furnished, for the period April to October or shorter term. STRABANE HOUSE, Brodick, with 6 bedrooms, 2 public rooms, 2 bathrooms. Pleasantly situated near Brodick overlooking golf course and the sea. Sandy beaches, trout fishing and climbing in close proximity.

To let, furnished, for the period part May, June and July, or monthly. SANNON HOUSE, with 6 bedrooms, 3 public rooms, 3 bathrooms. Delightfully situated in own grounds overlooking Firth of Clyde.

To let, furnished, for the period May, June and July, or monthly. DIPPIN LODGE, with 3 public rooms, 7 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Beautifully situated in own grounds overlooking Firth of Clyde.

To let, furnished, for the period part May, June and July, or monthly. WOODSIDE COTTAGE, Sannox, with 4 bedrooms, living room, kitchen and bathroom, situated by the sandy beach at Sannox with trout fishing and climbing nearby.

To let, furnished, for the period May, June and July, or monthly. DUNNIE HOUSE, Isle of Arran, Scotland. For terms apply to F. T. FOX, Arran Estates Office, Brodick, Isle of Arran, Scotland.

LEAVE. Furnished Cottages, flats, East Sussex. From 21 guineas. SWAIN, Robertsbridge, S.E.

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3084

FEBRUARY 23, 1956

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

ADJOINING A GOLF COURSE

27 MILES NORTH-WEST OF LONDON

An Exceptional Modern House erected in 1939 with up-to-date conveniences and labour-saving devices.

It is built of herringbone brick and stands 600 feet above sea level facing south and west with beautiful views over the golf course and National Trust Land.

The well-arranged accommodation, which is all on two floors, comprises: Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms.



Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (40943 R.P.L.)

Main electric light, power and water.

Oil-fired central heating thermostatically controlled. Septic tank drainage system.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

The well laid out grounds include lawns, excellent kitchen garden, orchard.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH
4½ ACRES**

BETWEEN WINCHESTER AND ROMSEY

FREEHOLD GEORGIAN HOUSE AND ABOUT 9 ACRES

The brick-built House faces south with pleasant views and is in excellent condition throughout.

3 reception rooms, kitchen with Aga, 7 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Main electric light, power and water. Central heating.

Inexpensive garden includes lawns with specimen trees. Walled kitchen garden, swimming pool, vegetable garden, outbuildings. Garage for 3 cars.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (53,572 R.P.L.)

SOUTH AFRICA. CAPE TOWN 18 MILES

IN THE FAVOURITE DISTRICT OF CONSTANTIA

Magnificent position 500 feet above sea level with unspoilt views.



Double garage.

Delightful grounds, bowling green, orchard, indigenous garden.

IN ALL 4 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.I., and HENRY HERMANN, Cape Town (53,522 K.M.)

A charming modern house having every convenience.

3 reception rooms, terrace, 2 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 staff rooms and bathroom. Main electric light and water.

SONNING, BERKSHIRE

Excellent situation on high ground, opposite the Golf Course, London under 45 minutes by fast train.

AN ATTRACTIVE AND WELL BUILT HOUSE
Architect designed in mellow red brick with leaded casements and tiled roof; compactly planned, well maintained and with a Southern aspect.

Lounge Hall, 2 Reception rooms, 6 Bed-rooms, 2 Dressing Rooms, 3 Bathrooms. Complete Automatic Central Heating and Hot Water Systems. Fitted basins. Main Electric Light, Power, Gas and Water. Double Garage. Man's room. Well laid out easily run Gardens.



IN ALL 1½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (34,058 S.C.M.)

CLOSE TO HAMPSHIRE COAST

Edge of unspoilt village few minutes walk of the sea

A CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE



In first-class order and having every modern convenience.

4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Automatic central heating.

All main services

Tithe barn Garage

COTTAGE

Beautiful well-stocked garden, walled kitchen garden, paddock.

ABOUT 12 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (37,197 K.M.)

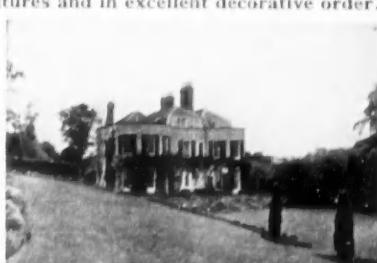
GEORGIAN HOUSE, GARAGE & FLAT £5,500

BETWEEN CANTERBURY AND COAST
Having many period features and in excellent decorative order.

4 reception rooms, modern domestic offices, 3 principal bed-rooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms en suite, 4 secondary bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Gas. Main electric light and water.

Garage with flat.

Charming walled garden.



Also available if required 2 cottages, 28 modern pigsties and 11 acres of paddock.

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY (22,477 K.M.)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wesso, London"



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1

MAYFAIR 3316-7
Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN**CHELTENHAM** on a private residential estate*High ground commanding glorious views.***IDEAL HOME FOR A FAMILY****Distinctive Residence with South aspect.**

Lounge Hall, 2 Reception Rooms, Domestic Offices with new "Aga" Cooker and "Agamatic" Boiler. Compact Domestic Offices. All main services. Gas fired Central Heating. Garage, Greenhouse etc. Charming Garden. FIRST CLASS HARD TENNIS COURT. Paddock of nearly 2 Acres suitable for development.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS AT THE PLOUGH HOTEL, CHELTENHAM, MARCH 15th, 1956.

Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS (Cirencester) Tel. 3345. Solicitors: Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green, 7 Royal Crescent, Cheltenham Tel. 54477.

SUITABLE AS GUEST HOUSE.**ROBIN HOOD'S BAY***10 minutes from beach***ATTRACTIVE DETACHED HOUSE****ideally situated overlooking the bay, in good order and exceptionally well built in stone and tile.**

VESTIBULE AND HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, GOOD SIZED KITCHEN WITH "RAYBURN", 4 BEDROOMS (3 double), BATHROOM and SEP.W.C., 4 USEFUL SECONDARY BEDROOMS.

ECONOMICAL GARDEN—GARAGE FOR 2 CARS—MAIN SERVICES.

Further particulars from JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF,
23, High Petergate, York. (Tel. 25033)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD,
PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

**SUSSEX****A CHARMING AND DISTINGUISHED GEORGIAN HOUSE IN MIDHURST**

5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and compact offices.

All main services and partial central heating.

Although only a few minutes' walk from the centre of the town, selected trees afford complete seclusion on every side.

FREEHOLD £7,950 OR OFFER,

including two secluded Building Sites

SOLE AGENTS: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office)

1, STATION ROAD,
READING
READING 54055 (3 lines)

**PORTO CERESIO**
IN A MAGNIFICENT SITUATION ON LAKE LUGANO

About 4 miles from the Swiss-Italian border. About 9 miles from Lugano and about 7 miles from Varese.

A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN VILLA to let furnished for any period longer than six months from March.

9 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, compact offices with modern tiled kitchen. Oil fired central heating.

Lovely garden with tennis court, private bathing beach and marble terrace stretching out into the lake. Entrance Lodge.

Rent can be paid in sterling. Subject to Bank of England regulations offers in sterling for the purchase of the villa would be considered. Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office)

GROSVENOR 2838 (2 lines)
MAYfair 0388**TURNER LORD & RANSOM**

127, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
Turloran, Audley, London**FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE***Goring on Thames. Easy reach Henley & Reading. Near Station: Golf.*2 Bathrooms, 6 Bed. Dressing Room, 2 good Reception, small Study, Staff Sitting Room & excellent offices.
MAIN WATER, ELECTRICITY & GAS.

FINE OLD BARN suitable Play Room, Music Room, Large Garage. Secluded Grounds, Fruit Trees, Lawns. Walled Kitchen Garden 1 ACRE.

FREEHOLD £7,500

Particulars of above or Messrs. Nicholas, 1 Station Road, Reading 54055.

Equivalent to an investment at 5% and living rent free.
FREEHOLD £4,500**SURREY***1 hour London station & town under a mile.*

LABOUR SAVING FLAT (own Garden 3/4 Acre & Large Garage) Well proportioned rooms in RECENTLY TASTEFULLY CONVERTED COUNTRY RESIDENCE with carriage sweep, affording half cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, modern offices, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, for own occupation.

All main services.

And an income of £225 per annum (exclusive) from self contained maisonette (or possession of whole if desired).

Mortgage if required.

45 MINUTES VICTORIA OR LONDON BRIDGE.

SURREY: Near Station**GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**

4 Reception Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 2 Dressing Rooms, good offices. ATTRACTIVE GARDEN with Pond & Small Island with Bridge. MAIN ELECTRICITY, WATER, DRAINAGE.

FREEHOLD £9,500**IDEAL FOR SAILING****ALDEBURGH: SUFFOLK:***on the Beach overlooking the Sea.***BRICK BUILT RESIDENCE**

3 Reception Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Domestic Offices. SMALL GARDEN, COURTYARD, GARAGE.

FREEHOLD £5,000

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1

NEAR A BUCKINGHAMSHIRE VILLAGE.
In beautiful country in the centre of Whaddon Chase.
A DELIGHTFUL 16th-CENTURY HOUSE OF GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST
Scheduled as an Ancient Monument

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Garage block with staff accommodation. Charming gardens, orchard and paddock, in all

ABOUT 4½ ACRES**PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,813)

WEST SUSSEX, NEAR MIDHURST.
Facing a village green and commanding delightful views to the Downs.

A CHARMING TASTEFULLY MODERNISED COTTAGE with 3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms, modern bathroom. Central Heating, main electricity and water. Garage and a delightful small garden of

ABOUT ½ ACRE.**LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE**

Sole Agents: Osborn & Mercer as above. (20,717)

For Sale by Private Treaty**WYE FISHING**

BEING THE EXCLUSIVE FISHING RIGHTS OF

THE WELL-KNOWN**ROCKLANDS BEAT**

ONE MILE, HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE WATER

View by appointment only.

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. W. H. Cooke & Arkwright, Midland Bank Chambers, Hereford and Messrs. Osborn and Mercer as above.

OXON AND BERKS BORDERS

Near a Village just over 6 miles from Reading

A CHARMING MODERN ARCHITECT DESIGNED

BUNGALOW

Having lounge, kitchen-dining room, 2 bedrooms (ample roof space for further bedrooms), bathroom. Well planned and fitted, and in first-class decorative order throughout.

Main electricity and water, about ½ acre of garden. FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: Osborn & Mercer as above. (20,890)

OXON, ON HIGH GROUND

In a picked position about ½ mile from Goring station and commanding a really lovely view.

A MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER

3 reception, 5 bedrooms (3 with basins b & c), dressing room 3 baths. Built-in Garage. Central Heating. Main electricity and water. Beautifully disposed, well timbered gardens, paddock, etc., in all

ABOUT 3½ ACRES.**£7,000 FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

Agents: Osborn & Mercer as above. (20,797)

EAST SUSSEX

Amidst richly wooded undulating country between Hadlow Down and Rotherfield.

A CHARMING SMALL, BRICK-BUILT HOUSE comprising the wing of a larger house and splendidly situated with delightful views.

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity. Company's water.

Matured, well laid out, but inexpensive garden of about One-third of an acre.

RATEABLE VALUE £27. FREEHOLD ONLY £3,500

It may be possible to purchase up to 60 acres of agricultural land adjoining.

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1032-33-34**SIX MILES EQUIDISTANT**
BRAINTREE AND DUNMOW**CHARMING OLD-WORLD FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE**

well modernised and in really fine order. Period features. South aspect. 3 bedrooms, bath., 2 large reception, kitchenette.

Main electricity and water.

Garage, barn and other buildings.

Attractive garden, orchard and land. In all over

2 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £3,850**EAST SUSSEX**

In small Market Town, 16 miles from the Coast.

**DELIGHTFUL OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE IN A PLEASANT POSITION**

4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 3 Reception Rooms.

All Main Services. Part Central Heating.

GARAGE, NEARLY 1 ACRE.

VACANT POSSESSION: FREEHOLD £5,000.

WEST SUSSEX. Nr. PULBOROUGH**CHARMING SMALL PERIOD HOUSE WITH T.T. DAIRY FARM OF 108 ACRES**

Pleasant rural setting, 3 miles from main line station. Main electricity and water. Garage. Double cottage (left).

Easily maintained gardens. Small lake and stream.

Vacant possession of house and 2½ acres. Farm let at £105 p.a. FREEHOLD £7,500 or the house and 2½ acres only £4,750.



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LONGBURTON, NR. SHERBORNE, DORSETTO BE SUBMITTED TO AUCTION IN THE SPRING
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A PLEASANT
COUNTRY COTTAGE
TYPE RESIDENCE

Built of brick with a tiled roof.

3 reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Two garages.

Main electricity and water. Septic Tank Drainage.

1½ ACRE Garden

PRICE £3,650

FREEHOLD

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BETWEEN SHAFTEBURY AND BLANDFORD



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AN OUTSTANDING ½ ACRE BUILDING SITE IN A NATURAL WOODLAND SETTING NEAR THE BEAUTIFUL STOURHEAD ESTATE
3½ miles from Mere and 5 miles from Gillingham (main line station). £450 FREEHOLD

Apply Salisbury Office (tel. 24678) for both above properties.



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ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A VILLAGE YET WITH PLEASANT SECLUSION AND A GLORIOUS SOUTHERN VIEW



FOR SALE A REGENCY HOUSE

Beautifully modernised and in faultless order throughout.*Exceedingly well arranged on two floors, and having a lovely suite of reception rooms chiefly facing south.**Lounge (30 ft. by 24 ft.), sitting room (24 ft. by 18 ft.), dining room (25 ft. by 16 ft.), study. Principal suite of bedrooms (22 ft. by 18 ft.), dressing room and luxurious bathroom.**4 other bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.***COTTAGE FOR MARRIED COUPLE***Central heating. Parquet floors.**Company's water and electricity.***STABLES, GARAGE, COWHOUSE**
Inexpensive grounds of a most attractive nature, two paddocks, in all about **12 ACRES****PRICE FREEHOLD £14,750***Strongly recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C 63560)*

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*Close to the old town of Hemel Hempstead.
High situated position. 1 mile Buntingford station.
CHARMING HOUSE, EASY TO RUN*



Hall, double lounge and
2 reception rooms,
5 bedrooms, dressing room,
2 bathrooms and maid's
offices.

**GARAGES WITH
2 FLATS ADJOINING**
Main electric light, gas and
water.

CENTRAL HEATING
Delightful timbered
grounds of
3½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,750. AN EXCELLENT PROPOSITION
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Unique situation close to the Golf Course and almost ADJOINING LIMPSFIELD COMMON with glorious views

THIS CHARMING SMALL MODERN RESIDENCE

having many delightful
attractions and erected under
Architect's supervision. Exceptionally well
appointed and in admirable
order.

Hall, two reception rooms,
cloakroom, 4 bedrooms,
bathrooms, and excellent
offices with Aga.

*Partial Central heating and
Main services.*

GARAGE
Lovely gardens with lawns,
productive kitchen garden
and fruit trees extending
in all to about 1½ acres.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD
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In most sought after residential area on the fringe of country yet within easy walking distance of town centre. Station 1 mile (Waterloo 35 minutes).

PICTURESQUE CONVERTED COACH HOUSE incorporating many labour-saving features and in immaculate order. South aspect. Sandy soil. 3 Bed. Bath. Lounge (19'6" x 17'). Dining Room. Sun Loggia. Hall. Cloakroom. Model Kitchen. All Main services. Garage. Pleasant garden.

PRICE £4,500. FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION.

Haslemere Office.

HINDHEAD, ADJOINING GOLF COURSE

5 minutes walk of village and bus route.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN COTTAGE in sheltered sunny position. Recently decorated. 3 Bed. Bath. 2 Rec. Hall. Sun Loggia. Compact offices. Main services. Modern drainage. Garage. Secluded garden.

PRICE £3,550 OPEN TO OFFER. VACANT POSSESSION.

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WELL APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE

Quietly situated within easy reach of the town and Main Line Station. Waterloo 50 mins.

9 Bedrooms (3 basins). 2 Baths. 3 Reception. Offices. Staff Sitting Room. Services. Garage with rear access drive. **ABOUT 1½ ACRE FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION, DIVISION OR CONVERSION INTO FLATS.**

PRICE £3,750 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents: Godalming Office.

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On fringe of Alice Holt Forest, adjoining wide expanse of agricultural country. Just off Farnham-Petersfield bus route. 2½ miles from electric train service to Waterloo.

COUNTRY PROPERTY OF CHARACTER

**Converted from old
Oast House, with later
additions.**

Entrance Hall. Cloakroom. 3 Reception Rooms. Kitchen with "Aga". Staff Suite of Sitting Room. 2 BedRooms and Cloakroom. 3 Principal BedRooms. Bathroom, etc. Main water and electricity. modern drainage.

GARAGE
DETACHED COTTAGE.
Swimming Pool.

NEARLY 8 ACRES

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

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GERRARDS CROSS

A SELECTION OF PROPERTIES FOR SALE IN BEACONSFIELD AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS

£4,650 **A SPACIOUS DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE** within a few minutes walk of the Beaconsfield station and shopping centre and comprising 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom. CENTRAL HEATING. ALL MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE. Garden of nearly **HALF AN ACRE**.

£5,500 **A CHARMING SEMI-BUNGALOW PROPERTY** occupying a first-class position at Flackwell Heath with magnificent views over the surrounding countryside. The accommodation which is in good order throughout comprises 2 reception rooms (Lounge 21' x 12' 2½) 2½ bedrooms, modern kitchen, bathroom. MAIN SERVICES. DOUBLE GARAGE. Attractive and well kept garden, with summerhouse or children's playroom, extending to **ABOUT THREE QUARTERS OF AN ACRE**.

£5,950 **A WELL BUILT FAMILY HOUSE** in the heart of the Chalfont country and within easy reach of main line station to London. The accommodation comprises 3 reception rooms, 5½ bedrooms, 2½ bathrooms. CENTRAL HEATING. ALL MAIN SERVICES. Easy to manage garden of **ABOUT ONE ACRE**.

Also available if required, Garage Block with Flat over.

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NEW HOUSES

In splendid residential area and much favoured districts, within easy reach of station and daily reach of London.

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WENTWORTH

BURNHAM

DELIGHTFUL ARCHITECT DESIGNED DETACHED HOUSES AND BUNGALOWS

3 or 4 bedrooms, Cloakroom, 2 or 3 reception rooms. Modern Bathrooms. Kitchens. Garages.

MAIN SERVICES. GROUNDS FROM ONE-EIGHTH TO ONE ACRE.

FREEHOLD PRICES VARYING FROM

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MODEL ATTESTED AND T.T. LICENSED DAIRY FARM

ABOUT 175 ACRES FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

WELL-BUILT MODERN RESIDENCE:

Hall, dining room, large living room, study, 6 first floor bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, plus second floor rooms.

Complete central heating. Main electricity. Ample water.

ATTRACTIVE GARDENS. SMALL TUDOR FARMHOUSE.

FIRST-CLASS MODERNISED DAIRY BUILDINGS AND 6 STAFF COTTAGES.

Free of tithe and land tax. Good rough shooting.

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ADJOINING DARTMOOR

ATTRACTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE
Beautifully fitted and equipped, commanding extensive views.



Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, cloakroom, beautifully equipped kitchen, Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler. Central heating throughout, electric light and power, good water supply. Garage for 4 cars. Stabling 3 MODERN COTTAGES. Charming grounds partly bounded by the South Tamar River.

In all about **13½ ACRES**

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH VACANT

POSSESSION

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MAYfair 6341
(10 lines)

WITH PRIVATE GATE TO WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE, SURREY.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

with Hall, Study, Dining Room, Drawing Room, 6 Bedrooms (with basins), 2 Bathrooms, 2 Garages.

Central Heating, Main Services

Garden with Hard Tennis Court, Swimming Pool

ABOUT 3 ACRES

with site for another house

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One of the best favoured Surrey villages within daily reach of London. Guildford 4½ miles.

AN ATTRACTIVE AND UNUSUAL RESIDENCE
OF CHARACTER



Hall, dining room, large lounge with oak floor, modern kitchen with Aga, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, self-contained staff flat with bathroom. Bungalow. Out-buildings with large play or dance room with bar, attractive garden. Main water and electricity.

ABOUT 2 ACRES with possession

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Beautiful position overlooking ASHDOWN FOREST, 5 miles East Grinstead

DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER



12 ACRES. REASONABLE PRICE

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SURREY—KENT BORDERS

Beautiful Southern aspect, extensive views, close to well known Golf Course, main station (1½ hours London).

FIRST CLASS HOUSE OF CHARACTER

in excellent order, and with modern central heating, all main services, polished oak floors. Lounge 42' x 26', 3 other reception, 11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms complete domestic offices.

GARAGES FOR 5 STABLING LODGE, SUPERIOR COTTAGE

Charming grounds, SWIMMING POOL, yew hedges, kitchen garden, spinney and pasture.

18 ACRES. VERY MODERATE PRICE FREEHOLD

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THE MANOR HOUSE,

KINTON Langley, Nr. CHIP PENHAM

2½ miles main line station (1½ hours London).

DELIGHTFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE

Hall, 4 reception, 3 bath (en suite), 5 bedrooms, dressing room, staff cottage adjoining. Oil-fired central heating, main electricity and water, Aga cooker. GARAGE FOR 3 RANGE OF LOOSE BOXES. Grounds with variety of trees, spacious lawns, HARD TENNIS COURT, walled kitchen garden, orchard and pond feeding pastures. **30 ACRES.** 2 cottages available.

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SUNNINGDALE

COOKHAM, BERKS

Near one of the finest Sailing Reaches on the Thames



Conveniently planned with 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, panelled lounge hall. Central heating. Oak parquet floors.

DETACHED COTTAGE

Double garage, swimming pool. **ABOUT 2 ACRES.**
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GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
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"RASHLEIGHS"

PINKNEYS GREEN, NEAR MAIDENHEAD

SALE OF

ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNISHINGS

including

A fine Pair of Chippendale Elbow Chairs, a 17th Century Oak Wardrobe, Buffet & Sideboard. An Elizabethan Oak Table, Chippendale Arm Chairs, Persian Rugs & Runners. Antique & Modern Silver, China, Glass, General Furnishings & Outside Effects.

For Sale by Public Auction on the Premises on the 14th & 15th of March 1956.

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SUNNINGDALE

Close to the Golf Course and Station.



AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE. 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc. Central heating. Garage & attractive grounds of **1 ACRE.**

QUOTE SALE REQUESTED—all offers considered.
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(ESTABLISHED 1775)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.13, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
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Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.MAGNIFICENT POSITION ON CORNISH RIVIERA
FAR REACHING VIEWS OF SEA AND COASTLINE**THIS BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE** was erected in 1957 on a picked site selected only after an intensive search.5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 2/3 Reception Rooms, Garage and Chauffeur's Room. *Main Water and Electricity, Fitted Kitchen, Central heating.*

FINE GARDENS MADE ON THE SLOPING CLIFF EDGE AT A COST OF MANY THOUSANDS OF POUNDS AND HAVING ACCESS TO SECLUDED BATHING COVE.

2 ACRES FREEHOLD
PRICE £7,900

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20 MILES SOUTH IN SURREY

500 feet above sea level with fine views over "Green Belt" country.

FINELY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

with large rooms, made by removing top floor of a small mansion.

MODERNISED, REDECORATED AND READY TO WALK INTO.

Work due for early completion.

7 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3 Reception Rooms (one 31' 6" x 18'). *Main Water, Gas and Electricity, Central Heating, 2 Garages.*

3 ACRES SECLUDED, TIMBERED GROUNDS of most economical upkeep.

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RESIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT

NEAR CANTERBURY, KENT

HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM BUILT IN 1648

in most delightful surroundings.

Hall, Cloakroom, 5 Reception Rooms, Modern Kitchen, Main Sitting Room, 4 Principal Bedrooms and Dressing Rooms, 2 Secondary Bedrooms and Dressing Rooms, 4 Bathrooms.

OIL FIRED CENTRAL HEATING, 2 COTTAGES, AMPLE FARM BUILDINGS.

ABOUT 20 ACRES

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EAST DEVON, NEAR CULLOMPTON.

FEW MINUTES BUS ROUTE, SOUTH ASPECT.

3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS,
BATHROOM, "AGA" KITCHEN

Mains electricity.

GARAGE.

WALLED GARDEN, ETC.

PADDOCKS.

IN ALL 2½ ACRES.

£5,000

ALSO AVAILABLE: COTTAGE, DEEP LITTER POULTRY HOUSE (1200 BIRDS) & 1/3-ACRE.

NR. CHUDLEIGH.
situated on the hills 1 mile from Village.
MODERNISED DETACHED FLAT. lounge 15' 6" x 15' 6", 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Rayburn Cooker. *MAIN ELECTRICITY, Garage & Carpenters Shop & Outbuildings. Walled Garden approximately 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD £3,400.*

3½-MILE SALMON FISHING
Situated 1½ miles from Exeter, South Devon.
SMALL HOLDING 17TH CENTURY COTTAGE and 25 ACRES bounded by River Teign. 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. *60% ELECTRICITY FARMERY, level Pasture.*
FREEHOLD £6,500.

SOUTH DEVON COAST
Pagdon outskirts.
ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED OLD FARMHOUSE 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bath, sep. w.c. *ALL MAINS, Good Outbuildings.*
2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £4,750.

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1½ MILES FROM STATION WITH SERVICE TO WATERLOO IN 80 MINUTES
WINCHESTER 8 MILESATTRACTIVE COUNTRY
RESIDENCE OF THE
GEORGIAN PERIOD

270 feet above sea level

ENTRANCE HALL

5 RECEPTION ROOMS

9 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM

2 BATHROOMS, USUAL OFFICES

Oil Fired Central Heating

Main Water and Electricity

Septic Tank Drainage



AMPLE OUTBUILDINGS

EXCELLENT STAFF FLAT

LODGE BUNGALOW COTTAGE

40 ACRES

FOR SALE PRIVATELY

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KENT, NEAR EDENBRIDGE

In a delightful rural position on rising ground, surrounded by farmland and with
delightful views over open country

COUNTRY HOUSE OF MEDIUM SIZE



ABOUT 7 ACRES IN ALL PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

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Ideal for two families, for
which use it has lately been
adapted.

Contains 6-7 bed, and
dressing rooms, 2 bath-
rooms, 3 reception rooms,
nursery, 2 kitchens, cloak-
room.

Main water, gas and elec-
tricity. Oil-fired central
heating.

Double garage, loose box,
etc. Attractive and easy
of upkeep garden with fine
rhododendrons, good kit-
chen garden, orchard, and
4 ACRE paddock.

and at
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Framlingham 1½ miles; Wickham Market 4½ miles; Ipswich 16 miles
**SMALL RESIDENTIAL T.T. DAIRY FARM WITH ATTRACTIVE WHITE
RENDERED 17th CENTURY HOUSE**

comprising

4 Bedrooms, 2 Reception
Rooms, Kitchen, Bath-
room, Office, Etc. Small
Service Flat.

Modern T.T. Farm Build-
ings with Milking Parlour,
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buildings.

The Fertile Land has been
well farmed and extends
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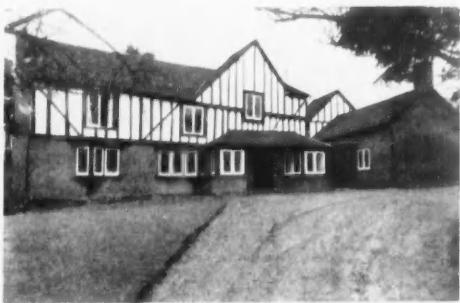
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4 miles Bishops Stortford 8 miles Ware London 50 minutes... good bus service.



A FASCINATING BLACK AND WHITE TIMBERED PERIOD RESIDENCE

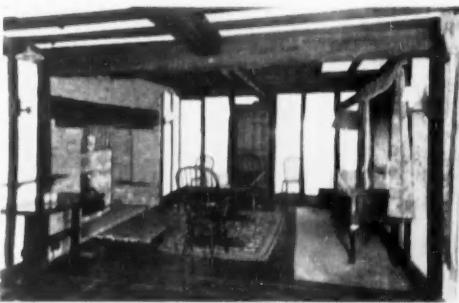
in the Puckeridge Hunt country

On two floors only, 6-7 bedrooms, bathroom,
2 reception rooms, day nursery, playroom.

Ample head room.

GARAGE, COTTAGE

Grounds of about **2½ ACRES** including
ORCHARD AND FIELD.



PRICE £7,250 FREEHOLD

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SUPERB ARCHITECT DESIGNED BUNGALOW

Charming Sun-trap position 1½ miles Haslemere Station.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-BUILT BUNGALOW



PRICE £6,000

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office.

in a choice situation
with extensive views
FIRST CLASS ORDER
THROUGHOUT

3 beds, bathroom, 2 recep-
tions, bright kitchen.

Main services, modern
drainage, GARAGE.

The garden is a special
feature with its flower
beds, dwarf stone walls,
lawns, orchard and
paddock.

By Order of the Trustees.

WESTHUMBLE—NR. DORKING

Five minutes walk Main Line Station

PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE AND WELL FITTED DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE

Light accommodation.

Ent., Hall, Tiled Cloaks

Excellent Kitchen Lounge,
19' x 12', Dining Room.

3 Bedrooms, Luxury Bath-
room, Sep. W.C. Covered
way to brick garage and
stores. Very pleasant
garden backing on to
Woodland.

ALL SERVICES

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Auction March 5th or privately before.

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DRUCE & Co., LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1822
WELbeck 4488 (20 lines)

Nr. DORKING—SURREY AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

in a pretty village and having excellent views to Leith Hill.
3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS,
GARAGE. **½ ACRE**.

PRICE £3,850 FREEHOLD

ASHTead—SURREY DETACHED ARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSE with a delightful garden

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS,
GARAGE.

PRICE £4,400 FREEHOLD

SHIPLEY—SUSSEX XVII CENTURY GEM

completely modernised with full C.H. and in faultless
order.

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION,
GARAGE. SUPERB VIEWS. **1½ ACRES**.

PRICE £6,650 FREEHOLD

BUSHEY HEATH—HERTS.

(London 14 miles)



**A CHARMING FREEHOLD GEORGIAN RESI-
DENCE** in a delightful position. Entrance Hall, 10
Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 4 Reception Rooms. Central
Heating to all rooms. Double Garage. Detached Studio
25' x 18'. **2 ACRES** of Woodland Garden
INSPECTED AND RECOMMENDED.

EXECUTORS BARGAIN OXSHOTT—SURREY

IDEAL FOR GENTLEMAN'S SMALL FARM
(Farmhouse could be erected in lovely setting.)

58 ACRES AGRICULTURAL LAND

forming a compact holding in a Rural but very
convenient position

PLUS 50' BUILDING PLOT

with frontage to a made road in addition to access on
either side of estate

MAIN DRAINAGE AND ALL SERVICES

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

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SUPERB POSITION IN SUSSEX

Magnificent South Views Main line station 1½ miles
6 miles from Coast Between Tunbridge Wells & Sea.



A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE.
HOME FARM. NEARLY 20 ACRES.
6 beds. 3 baths. 3 Reception. Central Heating. Aga.
Agamatic. 2 Cottages. Small T.T. Farmery.
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION
The House would be sold without the farm

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HAMPSHIRE, 1½ HOUR LONDON

Easy reach Alton, Petersfield and Haslemere.
**CHARMING WELL EQUIPPED
CHARACTER HOUSE**

6/7 beds 3 baths 3 reception; oil heating small secondary
house character cottage; good farm buildings

**SMALL HOME FARM 40 ACRES AND
WOODLAND**

OVERLOOKING WILTSHIRE DOWNS

Between Salisbury and Devizes

SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE

of 3-4 beds bath and 3 reception with charming wing of
2 beds, bath and 2 reception, completely self contained,
farmery and paddocks

£4,500 WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES

500 FT. UP. NEAR BLETCHELEY

Superb position with magnificent south views.

CHARMING MODERNISED COUNTRY HOUSE
with 7 Bed and Dressing Rooms 3/4 baths 3 reception,
mains; oil fired central heating, 2 garages

FREEHOLD WITH 3 ACRES

CLOSE LIMPSFIELD COMMON

Surrey, 500 ft up on the edge of glorious country. Oxted
station 1 mile; 40 mins. London.



FINE MODERN HOUSE, 5 beds, (basins, h. and c.)
2 baths, lounge, 2 reception, 2 staff bedrooms and sitting
room. Mains. Garage and stabling. Secluded gardens.
FREEHOLD, WITH 1½ ACRES

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1

STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDE PARK
0911-2-34

SANDHAYES, CORSLY, NEAR WARMINSTER

About 400 feet above sea level. Sunny aspects. Greensand soil. 4 miles Westbury
Junction (1½ hours to and from Paddington by frequent express trains).

SALE ON TUESDAY NEXT



For Sale by Auction (unless sold privately meanwhile) with Vacant Possession at the Auction Rooms, 16 Berkeley Street, London, W.1, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1956, at 2.30 p.m. Auctioneers' Office: 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1 (Tel. HYDe Park 0911). Solicitors: Messrs. PARK, NELSON & CO., 11, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2 (Tel. TEMple Bar 5741).

3/4 MILE

SALMON AND TROUT FISHING IN RIVER TORRIDGE

OKEHAMPTON 10 miles EXETER 26 miles.

MODERNISED STONE-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE

250 ft. above sea level having excellent views of Dartmoor. 3 fine reception rooms,
5 bedrooms (all with basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 staff rooms.

Ample water and electricity. Modern drainage. Central heating.

Stabling and garage. Cottage. **20 ACRES** (mainly pasture).

PRICE FREEHOLD £11,000 (More fishing available if required.)

Inspected and recommended by STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R. 27913)

WEST SUSSEX

40 ACRES. £7,000 OR NEAR OFFER, FREEHOLD

16TH-CENTURY BLACK & WHITE COUNTRY COTTAGE RESIDENCE

with clustered chimneys, oak beams and wall timbers in a lovely situation adjacent
to National Trust land and 20 miles from coast.

Two sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water, STABLING, GARAGE
and other buildings. TIMBER BUILT BUNGALOW. Charmingly disposed
gardens, with orchard and kitchen garden. The land is in hand except 10 acres.

VACANT POSSESSION (except as stated).

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN,
44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 27564).

ESHER
WALTON ON THAMES
WEYBRIDGE
CHOBHAM

MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO.

COBHAM
GUILDFORD
WOKING
WEST BYFLEET

THAMES DITTON, ESHER

Close buses, station, commonland.
Pleasantly situated in quiet cul-de-sac.



Well maintained. 3 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, separate
low w.c., 16 ft. lounge, 13 ft. dining room, tiled kitchen.
Detached large brick garage. Pleasant small garden
overlooking open land at rear.

£3,950 FREEHOLD

(Esher Office: Ewbank & Co., 20 High Street, Tel. 3537-81)

WEST SURREY

WEYBRIDGE

COMPACTLY PLANNED RESIDENCE
spacious rooms in perfect order. Full south aspect.



3 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms,
modern kitchen. Central heating throughout. Garage
for 2. Attractive garden. **1 ACRE.**

£5,750 FREEHOLD

(Weybridge Office: Ewbank & Co., 7 Baker Street,
Tel. 61-21)

ATTRACTIVE HOUSE OF CHARACTER AND CHARM

standing in own grounds, Woking (Waterloo 27 mins.).



5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, study
breakfast room, kitchen, cloakroom, garage.

OVER 2 ACRES. Central heating.

£5,450 FREEHOLD

(Woking Office: 3 High Street, Tel. 3800-3.)

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALEXANDER

HANTS/SOUTH WILTS BORDERS

A BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

facing its own parkland and an edge of unspoilt village



Lounge Hall. 3 Reception Rooms. 6 Principal Bedrooms. Dressing Room. 4 Bathrooms. Excellent Domestic Quarters. 3 Staff Bedrooms. Central Heating. Main Electricity & Water. Attractive Entrance Lodge. Garages & Stabling. Inexpensive Garden with Parkland in all about **25 ACRES. £10,000 FREEHOLD** (would be sold
excluding the Parkland). NOTE: The adjoining farm of 350 Acres would be sold, subject to tenancy.

Winchester Office (Tel. 3388).

PICTURESQUE PERIOD COTTAGE

In centre of North Hampshire Village close to shops and
main line station (easy daily reach of London).

RECENTLY IMPROVED AND MODERNISED

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM;
2 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN
ALL MAIN SERVICES

and

Domestic Hot Water from Cookerheat range.

GARAGE AND OTHER OUTBUILDINGS

LARGE GARDEN

£2,500 FREEHOLD

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

Lewes
Uppingham
Bulstrode
Wells
Beaulieu

STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKLEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.I. (GRO. 3056)

Chelmsford
Oxford
Plymouth
Andover

AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE PROPERTY SUSSEX—KENT BORDERS

Etchingham 6 miles. London 70 minutes by fast train.
QUEEN ANNE STYLE HOUSE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER



**ABOUT 36 ACRES
OR WOULD BE SOLD WITH LESS LAND TO SUIT A PURCHASER**

PRICE £8,950 WITH POSSESSION

Apply: Head Office, as above, or 201, High Street, Lewes. Tel. 1425.

3 RECEPTION
5 BEDROOMS
2 STAFF BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
MODERN OFFICES
Main electricity, own water
supply, septic tank drainage
GARDENER'S
COTTAGE
EXCELLENT
STABLE
OUTBUILDINGS AND
GARAGES

Easily maintained gardens
together with arable and
pasture land amounting to

HAMPSHIRE COAST

BETWEEN SOUTHAMPTON WATER AND THE BEAULIEU RIVER

In a lovely position on a
private estate close to the
New Forest and easy reach
of Southampton (15 miles)
3 RECEPTION, 5 BED-
ROOMS, DRESSING
ROOM, 2 BATHROOMS.
Main water and electricity
2 garages

ABOUT 1/2 ACRE



FOR SALE £3,500 Leasehold £8 Ground Rent

Apply: Sole Agents, STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER Head Office as above
or Manor Office, Beaulieu, Hants (Tel. 2291).

HERTFORDSHIRE

London 45 minutes by fast train.



MODERNISED PERIOD HOUSE IN A VILLAGE
in excellent order throughout. Entrance hall, 2 reception,
breakfast room, 4 bedrooms (bath), bathroom.
Central heating throughout. Main electricity and water.
Double garage. Small enclosed partly-walled garden.

PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head
Office, as above.

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

CORNWALL, NR. PLYMOUTH,

ON THE WEST BANK OF THE RIVER TAMAR

GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, STUDY,

5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM,

MAIN ELECTRICITY & WATER

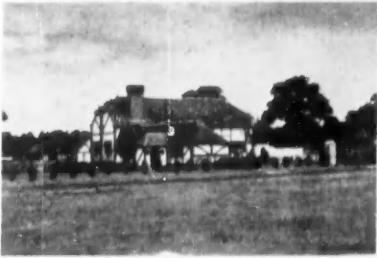
GARDEN, GARAGING & OUTBUILDINGS

POSSESSION MARCH. RENT £175 P.A.

Apply: Estate Office, Mount Edgcumbe, Plymouth.
(Tel. Millbrook 230) or Head Office as above.

WEST SUSSEX NEAR HORSHAM

London One hour by fast train.



ATTRACTIVE 16TH CENTURY HOUSE
with later additions, modernised and in good order

2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main
electricity and water. Garage and stabling. Park-like
grounds with a lake, paddock

IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES FOR SALE

Apply: STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office
as above.

SURROUNDED BY COMMONLAND
2 miles Dorking

MELLOWED WHITE COTTAGE in a rural yet most
convenient position. Expertly modernised to combine
modern luxury with the original charm and character.
Entrance hall with tiled cloakroom, bright lounge with
attractive stone fireplace, dining room, study, large
square up-to-date kitchen, four good double bedrooms,
bathroom, sep. w.c. Perfect decorative order throughout.
Garage. Secluded garden. All mains. Thoroughly
recommended at

£4,800 FREEHOLD.

Apply: 31, South Street, Dorking. Tel. 4071/2.

AN UNUSUAL OFFER

Superb rural situation.

4 1/4 ACRES with Planning Permission for the erection
of a **SUPERIOR QUALITY RESIDENCE** and a
smaller house or cottage. The site, which originally
formed a portion of the grounds of a most beautiful
Georgian Mansion, includes many ornamental trees and
shrubs and also a **1/2 ACRE LAKE**. Horsham main line
station is about 1½ miles away.

Further particulars on application to 31, South Street,
Dorking. Tel. 4071/2.

PEACEFUL WOODLAND SURROUNDINGS AT CATERHAM



ATTRACTIVE DETACHED COTTAGE-STYLE
with 2 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms (1 fitted hand
basin, tiled Cloakroom, Kitchen, Bathroom, Garage
and about **1/4 ACRE** Garden. Part Central Heating.
ONLY £4,950 FREEHOLD.

Apply: 6, Church Street, Reigate (Tel. 4422/30).

BETWEEN EPSOM AND LEATHERHEAD

Close to Ashdown Park

PLANS ARE IN HAND for an exceptionally well
appointed **NEW BUNGALOW** to be built on a choice
site with lovely rural outlook. Good travelling facilities,
sound quality and attractive style. Complete central
heating. Oak block floors, 200 lounge, 3 generous sized
bedrooms, large kitchen, tiled bathroom, sep. W.C.
Detached brick garage. Garden 60ft by 160ft. Sole
Agents

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD

Apply: 1, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Tel. 4133/4.

MODERATE PRICE FOR FAMILY MAN

On high ground between Leatherhead and Brookham

WITH 2 1/2 ACRES garden and orchard. **MODERN
DETACHED HOUSE** with spacious accommodation
on 2 floors only. Large Hall with downstairs cloakroom,
2 well proportioned reception rooms, study, 5 bedrooms
(1 with basin), modern bathroom, large kitchen/breakfast
room. Detached garage.

PRICE £5,250. FREEHOLD

Apply: 1, Bridge Street, Leatherhead. Tel. 4133/4.

LEWES, SUSSEX (Tel. 660-31)
UCKFIELD (Tel. 532-31)

ROWLAND GORRINGE & CO.

HURSTPIERPONT (Tel. 2333-4)
BITCHLING (Tel. Hassocks 865)

RIPE, NEAR LEWES.

*In the centre of this lovely Sussex Village. Close to the
Coast, South Downs & Main Line.*



**A FINE EXAMPLE OF A SMALL PERIOD
MANOR HOUSE.** 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, 3 Reception
Rooms, Kitchen, Hall, Main el., well water. Double
Garage & Outbuildings. Attractive & well stocked
Garden with Lawn. DETACHED MODERN BUNGA-
LOW with separate garden. **VACANT POSSESSION**
of both. For Sale Privately or by AUCTION

CLOSE ASHDOWN FOREST

4 miles Uckfield and Cuckfield



CHARMING OLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER
Fully modernised and in good order. Lovely
situation. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloaks, well-
fitted kitchen, Aga-cooker. Main el. and water. Beautiful
Garden and Paddock. In all **3 ACRES**.
Recommended at £5,500 or close offer
(F.5063, Uckfield Office.)

SUSSEX

*In an attractive village, within easy reach of station and
bus services to Brighton, and surrounding districts.*



ORIGINAL TWO COTTAGES, this **CHARMING GEORGIAN COTTAGE RESIDENCE**, has been modernised,
but retains all the old characteristic features. Hall,
Sitting Room, Dining Room, Playroom, Kitchen, 4 bed-
rooms and Bathroom. Small Garden.
FREEHOLD £3,250. VACANT POSSESSION.
Apply: Hurstpierpont Office

SACKVILLE HOUSE,
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(Entrance in Sackville Street)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephones:
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REQent 2482
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SHELTERED POSITION ON THE COTSWOLDS

AT AMBERLEY, ON NATIONAL TRUST LAND.
Well-known beauty spot on Minchinhampton Common. High but well sheltered.
Lovely views. Very accessible.



£7,250 WITH 2 1/4 ACRES.
Agents F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

Expensively Modernised and Artistically Decorated.
stone-built and stone-tiled house maintained in immaculate order by "home-pride" lady owner. With the annexe for staff or guests it contains 3 reception, 6 beds, 3 baths. Oak floors. Central heating with Janitor boiler. All mains. 18 ft. GARAGE. Partly walled and very charming garden, orchard and paddock. Convenient for Stroud, Gloucester and Cheltenham.

ABSOLUTELY FULL VALUE FOR £6,500

AT LISS, HANTS SUSSEX BORDERS.
Daily coach of London and Portsmouth. Well back and screened from A3 road between Liphook and Petersfield.

Soundly Built House with nearly 5 acres.

Mostly orchard, paddock and woodland. Fine position on high ground with good views. Newly decorated and completely modernised. 3 spacious and lofty reception rooms, 6 excellent bedrooms (basins), 4 baths. Few top floor attics not in use.

Aga cooker. Partial central heating.

Main services.

DETACHED GARAGE combined with cottage (5 rooms, bath and kitchen).

AN OUTSTANDING BARGAIN.
Sole Agents F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.



16, KING EDWARD STREET, OXFORD
Tel. 4637 and 4638

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

ON THE EDGE OF THE COTSWOLDS

Faringdon 4 miles, Burford 7 miles, Oxford 18 miles

A VERY CHARMING SMALL COTSWOLD VILLAGE HOUSE

constructed of mellowed stone, under a Stonesfield tiled roof, well modernised and in admirable order throughout.

TWO SITTING ROOMS, BREAKFAST OR FAMILY DINING ROOM, FOUR BEDROOMS AND BATHROOM.

TWO-ROOMED COTTAGE ANNEXE, with bathroom approached from the house under cover, suitable accommodation of staff or guests or as children's play or workrooms.

Inspected and recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK (Oxford Office)



9, MARKET PLACE,
CHIPPING NORTON,
OXON. Tel. 39

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER, AMPLE WATER SUPPLY, CONSTANT HOT WATER SUPPLY by independent boiler and/or electric immersion water heater.

Garaging and other useful outbuildings.

Pretty flower and well-stocked fruit gardens, in all about.

HALF AN ACRE

PRICE FREEHOLD: £3,950.

VACANT POSSESSION

OFFICES ALSO AT RUGBY AND BIRMINGHAM

32, QUEEN STREET,
MAIDENHEAD

L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON

Tel.:
Maidenhead 62 and 63

COOKHAM, BERKS.
A NEW HOUSE IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION



Superbly built, with hand-made bricks and tiles. Handy for station and the old world village. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, separate W.C., lounge, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen. Good garage. Central heating. Garden with matured trees. Strongly recommended at £4,800 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents—L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON, as above (Ref. 162)

BETWEEN MAIDENHEAD AND READING

In crucial position on bus route.

BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms, bathroom, double lounge, dining room, play room. Garage for 2 and ample outbuildings. £4,500

FREEHOLD. (Ref. 284)

MARLOW ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED COTTAGE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, living room. Integral double garage which would convert to large lounge 18' 6" x 17'. Delightful garden, nearly 1 acre, with orchard and 2 greenhouses. Main services. £3,750

FREEHOLD. (Ref. 189)

ON THE CHILTERNS, 5 MILES MARLOW WING OF COUNTRY HOUSE.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge 23' x 18', study, cloakroom and kitchen. Attractive garden. All in excellent order and entirely self-contained.

£2,750 FREEHOLD. (Ref. 216)

MAIDENHEAD

Within walking distance of the station.



A MOST COMFORTABLE HOUSE.

Lounge 30' x 12' 6", dining room, cloakroom and modern offices. 4 bedrooms, 2 luxury bathrooms. "Relative" self-contained flat of 2 rooms, kitchenette and bathroom. Double Garage. Easily maintained grounds. Excellent order. Main services and central heating. £5,950

FREEHOLD.

Agents—L. DUDLEY CLIFTON & SON, as above (Ref. 235)

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 54018 and 54019.

A MAGNIFICENT POSITION NEAR WALLINGFORD BERKS

Easy reach Huntercombe, Henley and Oxford



nearly 2 ACRES FREEHOLD

A House of modern character (built 1938) in a rural but not isolated position and with some of the finest views obtainable. Hall. Cloakroom. Large Lounge-Dining Room. Model Kitchen and Pantry. 5 Bedrooms, mostly with built-in furniture and basins. Bathroom. 3 W.C.s. Main Services. Central Heating. Aga cooker. Excellent Garage. Simple Garden, Orchard,

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS

GUILDFORD, GODALMING, HINDHEAD & LIPHOOK

BROOK, NEAR ALBURY, SURREY

Guildford 7 miles, Dorking 8 miles.

IN A VALLEY SETTING

Surrounded by lovely walking and riding Country.

FREEHOLD PERIOD COTTAGE

2 Reception Rooms. Music room (23' x 13'). 3 Bedrooms. Bathroom. Kitchen. Garage. Pleasant Garden.

Main water and electricity, modern drainage.



SHAMLEY GREEN, SURREY

on omnibus route to Guildford Station (Waterloo 40 mins.) Overlooking the Village Green. OLD WORLD COTTAGE FOR IMPROVEMENT. 3 Bedrooms, Sitting room, Store room, Kitchen, W.C. Small Garden. ALL MAIN SERVICES, together with

Brick and Slated detached Bungalow let at £270 per week, inclusive.

The above properties will be offered for sale by AUCTION (unless sold previously) at the Lion Hotel, Guildford on TUESDAY, 27 March, 1956.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale from the Chartered Auctioneers as above.

A RESTORED QUEEN ANNE RECTORY.
WEST BERKS VILLAGE (60 miles from London). Period fittings. Hall, 2 large reception, Study, cloaks, American kitchen, 5 bedrooms, bath, etc. Also Annex of 3 rooms, kitchen and bath. Main. Central Heating. Aga and Agamatic. Garage. Stable. Walled Garden. AN ACRE FREEHOLD.

Tel. (3 lines)
GROSvenor 3121

TWO HOURS WEST

of town, facing south over open country.



A LUXURIOUSLY FITTED STONE-BUILT HOUSE OF GEORGIAN ELEVATION

19 bed., 4 bath., and 4 reception rooms (on two floors).
Mains water and electricity. Central heating.
Stabling, garages, 4 cottages, pig and poultry buildings.

FOR SALE WITH OVER 60 ACRES

WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, W.1. (GRO. 3121)

WINKWORTH & CO.

RURAL ESSEX

On edge of lovely old village and under 2 miles from main line junction (London 1 hour).

A DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE

With up-to-date labour-saving fittings and in good decorative order. Compact accommodation on two floors only.

5 BEDROOMS, TILED BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN AND SCULLERY.

Main electricity and water. Central heating.
Fitted basins in bedrooms.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS providing pleasant setting with kitchen garden and orchard.

GARAGE.

EXCELLENT BUILDINGS for poultry and pig farming.

Stabling of 3 good loose boxes.

PRICE £8,000 WITH 15 ACRES

WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon St. W.1. (GRO. 3121)

48, CURZON STREET
LONDON, W.1

BUCKS VILLAGE

Main line station 7 miles. London 1 hour.



AN ATTRACTIVE REGENCY COTTAGE

5 bed., and dressing, bath, and 3 reception rooms.

Main services

Garage. Simple grounds with kitchen garden and orchard suitable for market gardening.

PRICE £4,950 WITH 2 ACRES

WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, W.1. (GRO. 3121)



ESTATE OFFICES, 5, GRAFTON STREET, BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1
Tel.: HYDE PARK 4685
And at Tottenham Court Road, W.1.



Preliminary Auction Announcement.

"THE GREEN" GREEN LANE BURNHAM, BUCKS

FIRST CLASS COUNTRY RESIDENCE.

Hall with cloaks, 3 reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. **3 ACRES**. Large garage block and staff cottage. **AUCTION OF FREEHOLD IN APRIL** (unless previously sold)

Maple & Co. Ltd. Hyde Park 4685

WELWYN GARDEN, HERTS

Five minutes from station.

MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

4 double bedrooms, bathroom, large lounge, dining room, excellent kitchen, hall with cloakroom. **CENTRAL HEATING**. Pantry. Brick garage. Good garden.

£5500 FOR QUICK SALE

Maple & Co. Ltd. Hyde Park 4685

MAPLE & CO.

EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK

Beautifully converted 13 miles Ipswich



DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE

originally 2 cottages completely modernised. 5 bedrooms, dressing room, powder closet, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, playroom, kitchen, electric radiators.

Good garage. **1½ ACRES. £3,600 FREEHOLD**

Very low rates.

Maple & Co. Ltd. Hyde Park 4685

Preliminary Auction Announcement.

"WHITE GATES" WOODCOCK HILL RICKMANSWORTH

MODERN ARTISTIC RESIDENCE and STABLING with **3 ACRES** including paddock. 5 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, lounge, hall and cloakroom, kitchen, **all electric**. Garage. Stabling. Harness Room, Hayloft, Playroom. **AUCTION OF FREEHOLD IN APRIL** (unless previously sold).

Maple & Co. Ltd. Hyde Park 4685

WINDLESHAM, SURREY

London 28 miles.

ATTRACTIVE SUSSEX FARM HOUSE STYLE RESIDENCE part 400 years old. 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, usual domestic offices, **part central heating**. Double garage. Games pavilion. **15 ACRES** with stream. **FREEHOLD £11,000**

Maple & Co. Ltd. Hyde Park 4685

WOKING
GUILDFORD
GODALMING

COUNTRY SETTING UNDER 1 hr. WATERLOO.

Secluded in 2 ACRES inexpensive garden, 5 mins walk M.E.S. close by golf, fly fishing.

Village amenities.

Modern cottage style residence charming L-shaped, lounge, dining room 23' 6" x 17' 6", Hall, Cloakroom, Good Kitchen, 4 bedrooms (2 b. & c.), Bathrooms (w.c.), GARAGE.

Modern services.

FREEHOLD £4,950.

Godalming office

Tel. 1010 1

IN THE EXCLUSIVE PART OF GUILDFORD.

Distinctive Modern House

enjoying open aspect over playing fields. Nearby Merrow Downs and Golf course (Waterloo 10 mins).

4 Good beds. (2 b. & c.) tiled bathroom; sep. w.c.

Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Loggia, Dining Room, Cloakroom (b. & c.) w.c. All mains. GARAGE.

Secluded garden.

FREEHOLD £5750.

Guilford office

Tel. 6778 1/2

Tel.: Woking 3263-4
Tel.: Guildford 67581-2
Tel.: Godalming 1010-1

WOKING
GUILDFORD
GODALMING

AUCTIONEERS, ESTATE AGENTS
AND VALUERS

Tel. 3584, 3150, 4268 and 61360 (4 lines)

COWARD, JAMES & MORRIS INCORPORATING FORTT, HATT & BILLINGS

SOMERSET

FREE AND THRIVING FULLY LICENSED CHARACTER INN

Located on an island site on the main A.36 road, connecting the large cities of the West Country to the Dorset and Hampshire coastal resorts.

and recognised

AS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR
RENDEZVOUS IN THIS PART OF
THE COUNTRY



TRULY AN UNUSUAL AND RARE OPPORTUNITY

TWO BARS

(quite inadequate to meet the present trade but with ample space for extension).

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC GARDENS COMMODIOUS CAR PARK

EXCELLENT LIVING ACCOMMODATION

comprising

2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices.

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION APRIL 18

(unless previously sold by private treaty)

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

DELIGHTFUL VILLAGE OF EMERY DOWN, NR. LYNDHURST, HANTS.
High up with magnificent views.
VALUABLE AND IMPOSING FREEHOLD COUNTRY PROPERTY
"CAMP HILL"



TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN 6 LOTS on the premises
on 25th April 1956 (unless previously sold privately).
Solicitors: Messrs. Underhill, Willcock & Taylor, 7 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.
Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & Sons 44-52 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth
(Tel. 6300).

WEST SUSSEX
Enjoying a pleasant setting in a quiet country lane on the outskirts of favoured coastal resort. Main Line Station 2 miles.
A CHARMING DETACHED 400 YEAR OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE



4 Bedrooms (2 b & c), Well-fitted Bathroom. Magnificent Lounge (24' x 19'), Attractive Dining Room, Kitchen and Scullery. WEALTH OF OLD OAK. Garden Chalet. Garage and other Outbuildings. Delightful ornamental gardens. Also productive Kitchen Garden and Orchard. **PRICE: £5,950 FREEHOLD.**

Fox & Sons, 44, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 6120.

9 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, Lounge Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Cloakroom, Maids Sitting Room, Kitchen, oil-fired Central Heating, Main Electricity, Water and drainage. Garage and Stable Block suitable for conversion into a Small Cottage Residence. Charming Pleasure Garden beautifully laid out. Kitchen Garden, Paddock, the whole covering about 2½ acres, part of which includes 4 Freehold Building Sites.

MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY
CENTRAL HEATING, Modern drainage.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge (20 ft. long), dining room, ground floor cloakroom, well-fitted kitchen (Agre).

Main water and electricity
CENTRAL HEATING, Modern drainage.

Double garage.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

with lawns, rose and flower beds, shrubs, fruit trees and kitchen garden, in all about

SUSSEX.

In a lovely position close to Brighton. Omnibuses pass.
A CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE IN A WELL-MAINTAINED GARDEN.



ONE-THIRD OF AN ACRE.

PRICE: £5,250 FREEHOLD.

FOX & SONS, 117 & 118 Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

CLOSE TO LYNDHURST
Delightfully situated in the centre of a charming New Forest Village.
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3084

FEBRUARY 23, 1956



MISS MARY McCORQUODALE

Miss Mary McCorquodale, younger daughter of Brigadier and Mrs. Norman McCorquodale, of Maxton House, St. Boswells, Roxburghshire, is engaged to be married to Captain Fergus Bowes-Lyon, elder son of the late Lt.-Col. the Hon. Michael Bowes-Lyon and of Mrs. Bowes-Lyon, of the White House, Glamis, Angus

COUNTRY LIFE

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PROPERTY IN 1955

TRENDS and tendencies in the property market are notoriously difficult to record or to forecast, and they vary greatly in different parts of the country even though the same economic factors are everywhere involved. According to a survey published last week by the Cooperative Permanent Building Society the values of second-hand houses—though this statement is limited to the less than £1,500 price range (less than £2,000 in London)—have lately risen conspicuously. If prices ruling at the end of 1952 are taken as equal to 100, the survey shows that by the end of 1954 they had fallen to 98, but have now risen to 101 at the end of 1955. Statistics concerning such houses have been kept by the Cooperative Permanent Building Society for more than ten years and obviously must be taken seriously. But there are certainly other opinions, and it is difficult to draw general conclusions. Established estate agents will at once differentiate between the better type of house built since the middle 'thirties which is beginning to appreciate in value and older property which is depreciating. Other agents maintain that the values of almost all pre-war houses are falling as the result of the credit squeeze and the difficulty of raising money, though according to other important firms the market has not been as adversely affected as the market in the majority of stocks and shares.

The change in price trends recorded in the Survey is attributed to the continuous increase in the cost of building new house property. But there are no doubt many other reasons to account for the rise. No doubt the fact that many old houses are being more kindly treated under the new reassessments for rating must be considered. And no doubt the inferior materials used nowadays in new building are having some result, to say nothing of difficulties of travel and traffic congestion which persuade a good many people to look for houses at an easy distance from their work.

From the agricultural parts of the country it is reported that well equipped farms and estates are in considerable demand by both private purchasers and investment companies. Small farms situated in really accessible areas continue to sell readily, though their prices may be slightly lower, but in East Anglia at any rate the downward trend in the price of farms noticeable in 1954 has not been continued. In contrast with 1954, which had the worst farming weather in living memory, 1955 was probably the best. It was also unfortunately a year of rising wages and rising costs of feeding-stuffs, and of fluctuating demand for pigs and cattle. The uncertainties have no doubt tended to neutralise the effects of the harvest, but it is generally

reported that, though as a result it takes longer to sell farms and prices may have been slightly lower, the best of them continue to command good prices.

FIELD STUDIES

THE Field Studies Council, better known by its former name, the Council for the Promotion of Field Studies, is to be congratulated on retrieving the calamitous position in which it found itself four years ago. At that time, owing largely to increased charges, the number of students was falling off, and the whole future of the Field Study Centres seemed in jeopardy. Now, in its report for the year 1954-1955, the Council records that at its four Centres (Dale Fort in Pembrokeshire, Flatford Mill on the Essex-Suffolk border, Juniper Hall in Surrey, and Malham Tarn in the West Riding) it has had more applications for courses than could be catered for. The number of students accommo-

enjoy other special areas such as the Forestry Commission's Parks and those owned by the Nature Conservancy, but, given goodwill and responsible behaviour on all sides, the whole of Scotland's countryside could also be enjoyed. The Trust believes that the protection of amenity in Scotland is sufficiently covered by the Town and Country Planning Acts, and that Government funds would be better spent in reinforcing the powers exercised under those Acts than in setting up another expensive controlling body. There remain to be considered the other aspects of National Park control—improving accommodation and refreshment facilities and securing access to the open country. But the Trust points out that there should be no difficulty about such matters in the areas it owns itself, and that the Forestry Commissioners already provide hostels and camping sites on the lands they own. Several low-rated counties in England and Wales have already shied at the threat of designation; the difficulties of meeting the extra expenses of administration may well prove decisive for the poorer local authorities in Scotland.

LABOUR-SAVING BIRDS

THE honey-guides of Africa, small birds about the size of sparrows, have reduced the business of saving themselves trouble to a fine art. Not only do they, like cuckoos, lay their eggs in other birds' nests; but when they wish to indulge their taste for bees-wax they induce someone else to break open a wild bees' nest for them. Dr. Herbert Friedmann, Curator of the United States National Museum, has made a special study of this remarkable habit, and in a recent bulletin of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington he discusses it at length. The birds will guide baboons, rats (honey badgers) and men to a bees' nest, leading them on with persistent calls, and feast on the pieces of cone left lying about when the nest has been plundered. One way of attracting their attention is to imitate the chopping of wood, which they are said to associate with the opening of a nest in a tree, though it may merely indicate to them the presence of a potential nest-opener. Some species confine themselves to chattering harshly when acting as guides, but one is said to draw on its followers by calling "weak tea, weak tea" in an inviting voice. There are two points of particular interest in this behaviour, which would surely have delighted Herodotus. First, it seems remarkable that the birds eat only the bees-wax, and are not interested in grubs, like honey buzzards, or in honey. Second, is the behaviour, which probably originated before the arrival of man and was later taken advantage of by him, instinctive, as Dr. Friedmann suggests, or is it deliberate?

AULD LANG SYNE

SHAKESPEARE may not have been written by Shakespeare but by another gentleman of the same name. We have grown used to the possibility, but if Burns did not write *Auld Lang Syne*, then what is the world coming to? Scots can repel this charge for themselves—they must be perfectly capable of it—but what of us poor Englishmen who ever since we can remember have linked hands with post-prandial emotion, and joined in the strains of him whom Mr. Micawber called "The immortal exciseman nurtured beyond the Tweed?" The statement, which is undeniably interesting, comes from the *Chicago Sun-Times*. The first charge was merely that Burns had borrowed a line, *Go fetch to me a pint of wine*, from an older poet, Lesle of Eden Poets do borrow, and there was no reason on earth why he should not. Then followed something graver, namely, a quotation from a letter of Burns, presumably authentic, referring to an old song never before seen in print or even manuscript until Burns himself "took it down from an old man's singing." If this letter is genuine there seems no reason to doubt Burns's statement, but at worst we can take comfort in the fact that he called the song, in another letter, "this glorious fragment." It is at least possible that he took the fragmentary foundation on which to build the whole glorious edifice as we know it. We must wait for the Scottish counter-attack.

NATIONAL PARKS FOR SCOTLAND?

SHOULD Scotland have a National Park system like that which obtains in England and Wales under the Act of 1949? The Act does not apply to Scotland except as concerns the Nature Conservancy, and there now seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to whether the English system of designated areas of natural beauty, within whose borders a special watch is kept on every kind of development, should or should not be adopted in Scotland. In obvious ways there is less need for it in a country sparsely inhabited, with no law of trespass as it is understood in England, and with regions of natural beauty much less liable to development than those to be found farther south. But a Scottish Council for National Parks has existed for some time, and it has just issued a manifesto urging that the Government should be pressed for early legislation on the English lines. At the same time the National Trust for Scotland, which has hitherto been a constituent member of the Council, has cut adrift and dissociated itself from the Council's resolution. The Trust thinks the English system unnecessary and points out that it already owns magnificent stretches of mountainous country itself and that not only could the public



W. R. Hawden

WATER-CRESS BEDS AT LETCOMBE BASSETT, BERKSHIRE

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

AN old man I was talking to not long ago took out a watch that bore an inscription testifying to his bravery in stopping a runaway horse team in a city street. "There's something not many have got," he said. I smiled at this, for it was true and likely to remain true. The horse has disappeared from the streets of cities, towns and even villages in the past few years. Those still encountered on the road are a rarity, and they are invariably rather old horses, less likely to take flight. The chances of anyone's having to throw himself in the path of a runaway are small. The chances of being presented with a gold watch for doing so are practically nil. The brewer mechanised his transport quite a time ago.

I saluted the old man who had stopped the team. It always took nerve to run in the path of a pair of big horses. I once saw three men attempt to stop a horse pulling a refuse cart when it bolted in a London street. Two of them finished sitting on the road without having laid a hand on the rein. The third lost his hold and just escaped having his neck broken. He deserved a gold watch for the attempt. The horse tried to take the refuse cart into a narrow entry. One of the cart wheels was smashed and the frightened animal came down so badly that it had to be destroyed where it had fallen.

MY own experience of dealing with runaways has always been as the driver of the horse or, on one rather frightening occasion, the passenger or rake-handler on an old-fashioned tilting reaper. I felt rather like a charioteer, with the additional thrill of being in danger of being tossed into the knives until I thought about it and put the machine out of gear, which brought us to a dragging halt, when the machine became clogged with corn and grass.

ON another occasion that I well remember I was equally powerless to bring the horse to a halt and it went on to the end of our journey at a suicidal gallop. There was a funny side to this escapade. I had a passenger who wanted us to hurry and who, in the end, was saying his prayers in a very loud voice. At that time we used to employ harvesters from Ireland, and this man was being taken to catch the boat train in the early hours of the morning. We began at a disadvantage, for I had unfortunately overslept.

THIS harvester was most impatient, and for his sake the pony was made to go a little faster than I cared to drive it. We were careering downhill when all at once an iron gate loomed in front of us—someone had opened it the wrong way. The wheel of the trap struck the gate and we were off. The pony rocked into a gallop, its neck straightened out and it did its best to make one line of its whole body from fore feet to heels. It was a hard-mouthed animal and I had no means of curbing it. We had gone two miles when I looked at the harvester. He seemed undecided whether to throw himself over the side or get down on the floor and bury his head. Far away, in the hills, I could hear the train coming, but it became a question not of catching a train, but of ever standing on my feet again. The pony headed for the station and it and the train arrived at the same moment. Perhaps this was a good thing, for the pony stopped breasting a wooden fence with its head sticking over to the platform. The harvester climbed down and clutched his crumpled parcel. He had stopped talking and it took him a moment to recover his breath.

"If he hadn't stopped and I'd broke me neck and had me brains dashed out what would have happened to me?" he asked angrily. I couldn't think of an answer before he dived into the train. I never saw him again. He didn't return for a second harvest. I fancy he was never the same man again. To be honest, I don't think I was ever quite the same after it myself, and anyone who might have jumped in the way of the horse and brought it to a stop would have been most welcome to a presentation clock, not just a watch.

LISTENING to a farmer friend talking about a neighbour who had borrowed a potato digger, I was struck with the co-operative spirit that exists and always has existed among farmers. A man who owns a cultivator, a plough, a mowing machine, seems to have no hesitation in letting his neighbour make use of it, and this often in spite of the heavy wear and tear on tools; but the exchanges go farther, particularly among small farmers, who think nothing of lending a hand on the neighbouring farm when their own harvest is in. I can remember this applying when I was a boy. Help was given and accepted when the hay was proving difficult to get in, when the corn was lying, when potatoes had to be lifted before the frost, and so on. At threshing times it was an accepted thing for neighbours to come. The fact that the threshing mill was due meant that certain people would come to help on that day, and the kitchen arrangements were made accordingly.

Not long ago I was talking about this to a friend who farmed in Canada and he told me that the spirit of co-operation in prairie communities is even greater. In his locality a man who breaks his leg would not be surprised to see his work being taken over by his neighbours,

who might also organise a dance to pay the doctor's fee. In the case of one man who was seriously ill in hospital, the community organised a dance and took it in turns to go into the hall, which was far too small to accommodate the number of people anxious to buy a ticket and help their neighbour. It seems to me a great pity that this spirit of helping one another does not spread from the country and agriculture to industry, where people seem far less inclined to identify themselves with the troubles and setbacks of their fellows.

A LETTER had come from a friend asking for advice in getting rid of sparrows in a thatched roof that cannot be successfully wired, and I was puzzling to know just what

could be done to get rid of the birds, when the next post brought another letter with an intriguing solution. I had been on the point of suggesting the fumigating of the thatch with sulphur or some such thing, but I put the idea aside, for here was something to appeal to the frugal, the thrifty, the believers in poetic justice, lovers of a touch of irony!

"Your recent remarks in COUNTRY LIFE concerning the destructive sparrow have prompted me to tell you the method adopted by my maternal grandfather in the capture of them," says the writer of my second letter. "Take a pint or a quart of good sound wheat, soak same in D's Irish whiskey (to be had at that time) for 24 hours, then place two to three yards apart the contents, at suitable places. After

some five or six minutes you can pick up the helpless birds and dispatch them. The contents of their crops can be used again and the unused wheat placed in the whiskey jar again. My grandfather always had a case of this whiskey on hand, and I think the cost was 36s. a dozen in 1885. I remember assisting in the sparrow-net operation, although it seems such a long time ago. I am now 84."

I wonder if they are troubled with sparrows in Scotland, and whether it would have to be Irish whiskey. I am sure that this subtle way of getting rid of sparrows would appeal to anyone with a grain of thrift in him. For pure economy, and the elimination of waste I can only add the suggestion that the feathers should be used to stuff pillows and the birds put in a pie.

PROBLEMS OF MARGINAL FARMING

Written and Illustrated by JOHN L. JONES

THE problems of the marginal farms of Wales—and, for that matter, Britain—are too often over-simplified in the popular conception by being identified too closely with problems of land husbandry. The use of land how to increase productivity from soils of low potential often in difficult climatic conditions is of course part of the central core of the marginal land problem. But around this difficulty there are grouped formidable problems of a social and economic character. Indeed, thanks to the work of the agricultural engineer, chemist and plant breeder the difficulties of increasing output from poorish soils are now the least intractable part of the growing marginal land dilemma. I have visited recently a number of Welsh farms in marginal areas, and the abiding impression is of the fragmentation of a traditional way of life unable to adapt itself to the social and economic pressures of the age.

Much of the problem land of Wales is found in the great steep-sided mountain massif of Central and North Wales. (In the south the principal marginal area is the Prescelly range in Pembrokeshire.) This great block of hills, which the erosion of aeons has covered with a few reluctant inches of soil which quickly leach out their nutrients on the steep slopes, receives a rainfall varying from thirty inches in the valleys to seven feet on the bleak upland crests. The pattern of Welsh hill farming has been built round the establishment in these areas of lonely and remote homesteads situated usually between the lower and the upper contours of the holding, where the economic lifeline was a flock of hardy Welsh ewes. Lower down there emerged the rearing of black and white-faced stores and the processing of a little milk into farm-house butter and cheese. Butter making for direct sale was still continued in the very remote regions during

the rationing period, but it has now virtually ceased under the rationalising of the milk industry by the Milk Marketing Board. The pattern which emerges to-day is sheep, store cattle raising and the sale of liquid milk.

To understand the sociological and economic forces which are disrupting and changing the pattern of life in the Welsh uplands it is necessary to understand something of the farming problem. The biggest holdings in terms of nominal acreage are the sheep farms, which also lie at the higher altitudes, stocked at less than one to the acre by the Welsh breed of ewe, bred to withstand that most drastic of weather trials for a fleeced animal—the grim combination of heavy rain and freezing. The principal husbandry problem for the sheep men is how to keep their flocks alive during the winter, for their farms may contain little or no shelter and no enclosed land suitable for wintering.



WELSH BLACK CATTLE ON MARGINAL LAND IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE BEING RUN AS A DAIRY FARM. Welsh hill farming to-day is based on sheep, store cattle and dairy cattle.



FARM-HOUSE AND BUILDINGS OF A WELSH HILL FARM. The site is typical—mid-way between the upper and the lower limits of the farm

On many of the big mountain farms the problem is solved in grim fashion by the rigorous application of nature's law of the survival of the fittest. The flocks stay all the year fighting for a living from the nardus, molinia and fescue grasses and rearing probably sixty per cent. of their lambs. One of the principal returns in the past has been the wool from wethers and mature ewes, ranging from a quarter to a third of the gross sheep income. The other income is from draft ewes and store lambs. Losses may be up to a quarter of the breeding flock in a severe winter.

On other mountain farms and on the hill farms farther down the slopes it has been traditional practice to send the flocks, particularly the ewe hoggs, down from the mountains to graze the left-overs of the lowland farms for a headage payment of up to thirty shillings per ewe. The system is known as "sending them on tack." The plain of the Cardiganshire seaboard has been a traditional wintering ground for thousands of sheep from February to April—the period of the stark winter gap—from the table-lands of south Montgomeryshire, Brecon and Cardiganshire. There were ready purchasers even for the few acres of winter grazing across the sound to Cardigan Island, and the keep was bought there for many years between the wars by a farmer friend of mine who ferried his ewe hoggs over in boat loads of twenty as the tide permitted. These sheep were from Prescely.

The Prescely sheep men are fortunate in that their tack problem has been virtually solved by the making available of wintering facilities on the tank-proving range at Castle Martin, in the south. Elsewhere, for the areas mentioned above and for the Radnorshire farms, the great spread of milk production in the sheltered valleys and on the seaboard farms has seriously reduced the number of acres being offered for the seasonal migration, with serious effects on the more marginal economies of some of the hill farms. The enforced home wintering means that fewer sheep can be kept, so that it is more difficult for the families to make a living. There is a sharpening increase in "normal" winter casualties, and the black winters of heavy snowfall can bring disaster. The early pockets of growth appear later in the spring, owing to continuous winter defoliation, which extends the period of hunger before lambing and reduces the lamb drop. Also, the winter rains are unable to sweeten the unstocked hills, which become stunk out with sheep, with parasitic infestation increasing and flock quality



PUBLIC HIGHWAY IN THE PRESCELY MOUNTAINS, PEMBROKESHIRE. Hundreds of farms in the remoter areas of Wales are without a road giving access to a public highway

declining. This unbalance between hill and lowland acres is a historical process which had its origins in the Welsh enclosures movement of the 18th and 19th centuries, when the old marriage of lowland and upland acres, of "Hendre" and "Hafod," was forcibly dissolved and the hill acres were formed into a separate, isolated farming unit. This unbalance is at the heart of the Welsh mountain farm problem to-day.

Two main tendencies are now apparent in the remote areas. Many of the sheep farms remote from public roads have fallen vacant and their acres been added by default of fence to the communal sheep walks. Alternatively, they have been bought up by farmers lower down the slopes, usually those who farm near a public road. One highly successful holding in the Prescelly Mountains provides a microcosm of the process whereby a sound, economic upland farm has been formed by the merging of several decayed units into one economic block. It has a nominal acreage of 600, of which about 80 lie below the 1,000-foot contour, and the homestead lies just off the road from Haverfordwest

high mileage cost. The need of the marginal areas for such deliveries is much greater in Wales than in England, where there are many more rural centres of population, but they are being increasingly withdrawn. Where there is no access road from an isolated homestead to a public highway—and hundreds of Welsh farms are without one—it is the lack of social amenity that presses most severely on the womenfolk in particular, and is often the decisive factor in leading to its abandonment.

Added to distance, which makes the tradesmen unwilling to serve even the relatively well-sited farms, is the poor condition of many of the public highways, a reflection of the fantastically low rateable value of the marginal areas. On a visit this year to a Montgomeryshire farm I found public roads, originally designed for slow horse traffic, little better than tracks. The farmer had to take his milk each morning three miles by tractor to the nearest collecting point. This area was typical of the mixed farming land of central Wales, and the hundred-acre farm was being run as a dairy holding with the production

land and no social amenity are the natural site for afforestation and water catchment such as have been developed in parts of Radnorshire, Montgomeryshire and Cardiganshire.

Meanwhile the Government assistance of grants and subsidies has provided some much needed support to these areas of economic paradox. The Hill Farming and Livestock Act was designed expressly to help all marginal farmers other than those engaged in the production of milk, whose economy is regarded as more stable in view of their receipt of a guaranteed price for their principal product. The rearing and sheep farms do not produce a finished product for sale and are therefore outside the stream of guaranteed prices. Some holdings on the hills have put into operation comprehensive schemes of improvement under the Improvement Grant for Livestock Rearing Farms, which embraces such items as the improvement of roads and cottages, and the provision of electricity supplies; and there are also the Marginal Production Grant Schemes, which help to finance land improvement. The former have tended to apply



BRINGING IN WELSH MOUNTAIN EWES AND LAMBS ON A FARM IN THE PRESCELLY MOUNTAINS. About 400 ewes are carried here on 700 acres of hill. The cost of fencing is high on the sheep farms, where walls are useless to keep in the agile mountain ewes

to Cardigan. The capital needed to unify the block has been considerable. The land has been completely fenced off with 15,000 yards of heavy-gauge wire netting, while the bottom acres, improved by an expensive reseeding and the summer agistment of cattle grazing with the sheep, have made the holding self-supporting through the winter. The produce here is store and fat lamb off the grass, draft ewes and wool. From holdings such as this and those on somewhat better soils lower down the slopes a better-type lamb than the pure Welsh is being produced by mating the Welsh ewe to the Border Leicester tup to turn out a Halfbred breeding ewe on the Scottish model. This development holds possibilities for the Welsh sheep farmers on the better land and on balanced holdings, and associations are now being formed to further the project.

Even here, however, on a holding near the public road the sociological aspect of living in marginal areas is a thorny one. The provision of elementary goods and services is an increasing problem, and when I visited the farm recently, the baker's van had ceased to call in view of the

of stores from the least productive cows as a sideline. I accompanied the farmer in the evening to fetch home the herd, and as we drove them from the hill down the farm lane they scattered into a neighbour's field where the boundary hedge was completely flat. The problem of boundary fences alone, without consideration of the dilapidated internal fences of such a farm, is almost economically insoluble, except where the unit is large, for many of the Welsh holdings even on moderately good land are marginal through sheer lack of acres. Mechanisation, while it has eased the burden of toil, has tended also to increase cost. The old horse-drawn implements, with ten times the life of tractor-drawn gear, were handed down from one generation to another as a sort of inherited capital, and kept costs of replacement to a minimum. The spread of motor transport has also accelerated the decay of many of the remote steadings because of the impossibility of building private farm roads on the paths and tracks which are all that often join the farmstead to the outer world. These remote areas of poor

mainly on the bigger and better farms of a reasonable soil potential, though even there the farmers have been loath to sink their little capital in fixed equipment improvements. More use has been made of grants under the Marginal Production Scheme for individual items of land improvement and other individual specific grants for such items as water supplies.

Meanwhile a report on a sample area of marginal Welsh land has been issued by the Welsh Agricultural Land Sub-Commission. It is an interesting document summarising the results of an exhaustive investigation. Anyone who has spent time among the upland Welsh farmers cannot but be moved by the fortitude with which they wrest their precarious livelihoods from their rain-battered inches of soil. Certainly there will be agreement that the arrest of the depopulation of rural central Wales will depend on the provision of elementary social services and amenities in the marginal areas. Within this context of social improvement the rationalisation of the upland farming pattern now under way offers hope of a more permanent settlement.

SAVE THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE!

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

THE enormity, at any rate the enormousness, of the Government's designs in the Victorian "Art Quarter" of Brompton took a little time to be comprehended. The Earl of Home recently stated in the House of Lords that the greater part of the block bounded by Prince Consort-road, Exhibition-road, Imperial Institute-road and Queen's-gate, including the Imperial Institute, is to be demolished for the extension of the Imperial College of Science. Part of the College occupies the north-east corner of the block and also the south side of Imperial Institute-road, while the first instalment of its extension is already rising as a reinforced concrete skeleton on Prince Consort-road.

It has apparently been decided, although the Royal Fine Art Commission has objected, that to preserve and adapt the Imperial Institute would be "uneconomical," and its architecture "difficult to reconcile" with that of the new science buildings. Since the land and most of the buildings in what the Prince Consort conceived as the focus of Britain's culture are Government property, and the project is the Government's, the statutory sanctions are not required for either the destruction or the construction—and the only official protests have been ignored. So not only are the character and scenery of an important section of London to be completely altered without national opinion being regarded: the destruction of a great building, architecturally commensurate with the Law Courts or Westminster Cathedral, and its replacement by something unspecified, has been decreed by the Cabinet. Considering the safeguards, the pains and expense devoted to preserving architecture of "national and historic importance"—the fuss that is made if a private person wants to add a bathroom to a second-rate "scheduled building"—this cool resolve to erase

the Empire's memorial to all that Queen Victoria's Jubilee stood for passes belief.

It may well be that the old imperial spirit is now so much a thing of the past that the Imperial Institute has outlived its purpose. Undoubtedly technology counts for more than sentiment as a bond to keep together what remains of the colonial empire; engineers and chemists are vastly more necessary than poets. Even if this complex and confined site (which, exceptionally, the Royal College of Music is

being permitted to share) is suitable for laboratories and residential hostels, has our generation the moral sanction thus to erase from the historic scenery of London a great architectural monument, even though the proud certainties of Jubilee Year to which it was dedicated no longer ring true?

For a great building the Imperial Institute is like an immature wine, its taste seemed uncertain during the intervening years—overbodied and fruity. But time mellows. We can now appreciate Thomas Colcutt's rich vintage, and to savour it again is to be convinced of its noble qualities.

Except for always enjoying the lovely campanile that looms into many distant views (and I expect the same applies to many other people) I had not looked at the building critically for some years until the other day. On that frosty morning I realised how grand a unity is composed by those green-capped towers (there are three of them), pinnacled domes and gables, galleries and loggias and cavernous portal, in colour like tarnished silver laced with bronze; what a vision it presents of romantic splendour! The central tower, which Colcutt is believed to have sacrificed a knighthood to retain in his conception, is a great affirmation (grander, I think than Bentley's at Westminster Cathedral) such as we shall never afford to build again. And it provides, as Dr. Julian Huxley has remarked, "the best of the very few vertical features in a large (and prevalently horizontal) area of London." And if so now, how tremendously more a few decades hence when inarticulate and universal concrete will have raised a hunger for romantic colour in architecture. I thought: "This is Tennyson. The architecture of the *Idylls of the King*." And, sure enough, in the January number of the *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects*, Mr. Goodhart Rendel gives the very words in which Tennyson set the key for this idyll of his Queen: "Some Imperial Institute, Rich in symbol, in ornament, which may speak to the centuries after us. Of this great Ceremonial. And this year of the Jubilee." "It came in the form," Mr. Goodhart Rendel adds, "of



"RICH IN ORNAMENT WHICH MAY SPEAK TO THE CENTURIES AFTER US" (Tennyson). THE FRONT OF THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, WHICH IS THREATENED WITH DEMOLITION, IN IMPERIAL INSTITUTE-ROAD



THE MAIN ENTRANCE. The foundation stone, laid by Queen Victoria in her Jubilee Year, is behind the lion in the foreground

what seems to me, so far as my knowledge goes, to be one of the most beautiful buildings of its kind and time, not only in England but in Europe."

Thomas Colcutt (1840-1924) had been assistant to G. E. Street during much of the building of the Law Courts. He may have inherited from him something of the skill he was to show for combining broad, strong, composition with remarkable discrimination in the scale and character of enrichment, though he abandoned Gothic for the fashionable Early Renaissance idiom. The best of Colcutt's other buildings are the Palace Theatre and the "Dutch" houses in Harrold-gardens—where he was one of the first to introduce that style. The effect of his design, preferred to those of five better known competitors (including Aston Webb and T. G. Jackson), was described by a contemporary critic as produced, "apart from the delicate detail, refined proportion, and skilful massing, by the breaking up of the surfaces... The result is a building which is essentially Victorian and

can only be described as charming in every respect." Analysing this "breaking up by strips, strings and cornices," Mr. Goodhart-Rendel points out how the whole is also thereby unified "as it were by a sort of decorative grid, which relates everything to everything else," and affords variety of relief in depth by means of the arcades and the cast shadows. Of the tower itself, "the combination of power and delicacy in its design and the felicity of its placing make it one of London's most beautiful possessions."

It cannot be impossible to retain the whole of Colcutt's elevation, including the wing-blocks and central tower, but sacrificing the two lateral towers at the rear of the wings, in front of the new College of Science. The long and impressive corridors extending to either side from the entrance could serve new quarters behind them, and the upper floors be replanned. The new buildings could be so grouped that the tower would rise from a recessed space in their centre. If more accommodation is imperative,

the Royal College of Music (a fourth-rate building which at present is being preserved at the cost of the Imperial Institute) would greatly benefit by being removed to more commodious modern quarters.

In the last resort, and to avoid our generation's committing a crime against the ethics of history and art that would be unforgivable, the tower and central forebuilding should at any cost be preserved, preferably with the arcaded principal storey on either side. The new buildings in their rear could afford to be completely plain (and all the better for that), stepped back if necessary to considerable height in the lateral sections where they would not conflict with the tower.

The whole of the present project gives the impression of having been conceived with reckless haste. The need for it is no doubt urgent; but a few months devoted to its revision to incorporate at least some part of this great national monument would, on the lowest count, be paid for by the saving in demolition costs.

THE OLD MAN

By MARY CROSBIE

"**H**E'S old," said the Squire's wife, apologetically. "The young ones don't like digging, and your place wants plenty of spadework. The Mauleverers never did more than scratch with a light fork." She spoke of war-time tenants in a country cottage whom we had succeeded. "He's old," said the Squire's wife. "But I'll tell him; I'll ask him"—the correction had its own significance—"to call."

He called. Old, certainly. He put one bent finger to the brim of a hat as old as himself in salutation. (The younger villagers wear no hats and their salutation is a sideways nod.) The hat that impressed us might have been a legacy from a long-dead vicar black or once black, ample, weather stained, with a band of curiously plaited silk, something vaguely episcopal about it, I thought. The coat, too, was ample, having immense pockets and square-cut tails. We came afterwards to connect the pockets' immensity with long-ago poaching. Whiskers of dingy grey stood out over a black and white neckcloth. Old, undoubtedly; but there was a lively gleam in the eyes that encouraged us.

* * *

"Her said as you in wanting a bit of help in the garden, like?" The lively eyes ran appraisingly across the neglected rectangle left behind by the Misses Mauleverer, who had also left behind a small rusty hand-fork and a jam jar on the kitchen window-sill, as signs of their ministrations. "Them ladies Squire's wife let it to smoked long cigarettes at the roses—not much 'arm done fur's I can see—and they 'ad a little dog that ran about all over the place doing his wurst. But tes good land if treated proper. When old Jemmy Duckett lived ere, Old Jemmy allus kep a pig—yon's the sty," he nodded towards a tumbled heap of stones swathed in bramble. "Naught like pig-manure for a garden. I'd say it if it was my last word."

Accepting the death-bed affirmation and made a little breathless by it, we said we had never had a pig and had no wish for one.

"You in not fur out, come to that," said the Old Man. "Pig food's terrib'le 'ard to come by these days, with these 'ere rations and reasons unbeknown. But I ed 'ave settled up yon sty for 'ee nice enough. Old Jemmy Duckett used allays to tell me when he was about to kill, and there was a rare good lot of clutterings gon'. But times is changed in course. Squire's wife was sayin' you want me to give you a hand in the garden...." We made haste to say that we did—as much as he could give—as much as we could hope for in those days.

He nodded confidently.

I calls it swindling—no less—the wages these young uns ask. When I was a young man.... But two shillin' an hour is more'n enough even with beer the price it is, and that's all I asks. Nine to four's my hours—once it were six to six and longer in harvest time. We thought little of workin' on while the moon climb up. But nine to four it is. Will it please you?"

An almost formal touch of the clerical hat

accompanied the question. We felt afterwards that he had asked daringly. Squire's wife's shake of the head when she heard of it emphasised the feeling. "He's old," she said, suggesting a poor bargain. "And really there's nobody to be had. Even the women. The last one I had..." "Me knees won't let me," she said. "Isn't there a mop or something I can walk about with?" What would our grandmothers have said?"

I offered no surmise. Occasionally I have hoped that our grandmothers are now carrying cans of hot water up five flights of celestial stairs.

The Old Man—we always spoke of him so—paused for a moment at the cottage door. "Nine to four is it then? And two shillin' an hour?"

It was nine to four and two shillings an hour. Never was bargain fulfilled with more pointed punctilio. The employers had to drift down the garden at about a quarter to four to suggest that the day's work was nearly done.

"Another quarter," he heaved out a large watch from depths in the waist-belt area. "Another quarter. It'll just about carry us to the end of the row."

It became a byword with us—"the end of the row." I'm not sure that it didn't carry us over our own bad patches as the shocks of peace followed the shocks of war.

* * *

"Am in me eighties," he boasted, plying the hoe with an arrogance that overlooked the fact that he was hoeing up cherished rose cuttings or a line of parsley, duly sown by ourselves on Good Friday. ("Parsley must be sown on a Good Friday by a woman or it won't do no good," he had told us.) "When I were a young'un I worked for a while for old Matty Giles that was the carpenter then. Grampy to young Les, you mind?" I could not "mind," not being yet in me eighties. He had the engaging habit of making us contemporary in reminiscence. "When us knocked off for a sup o' something outer a can, some'un ud say—Come on now boys, you can't see no further than the bottom!"

THE BLACKBIRD

*In the elm tree, down by the fold,
The blackbird sings;
Sings of the wood, of the wold,
And of all green things;
Sings of the flowers still sleeping
Beneath the grass;
Sings of the green buds peeping
To see the clouds pass;
Sings of the raindrops falling
From branches bare,
Of mysterious voices calling
Everywhere;
Sings of youth, of love, of manifold
Happy things.
In the elm tree, down by the fold,
The blackbird sings.*

E. MILICENT POOL

time we was putting another button on Measter's wes'kit. Measter ud go bare for all lads care to-day." He used an Elizabethan description of Measter's nakedness, and then, acknowledging a female auditor, coughed and spat carefully into the trench he was making as he earthed up potatoes. He had these lapses from the domination of the clerical hat. When the Squire's grandson was born, he was turned out of the Wagon and Horses at closing time every night for some said a week, others a fortnight, and when he rolled home his sister ("Our Sarah-Annie, and a rare tartar") locked him out. He had to sleep in the dog-kennel, which he did, first waking the dog with a ribald song, rising blithely and early to let him off his chain to annoy Sarah-Annie.

* * *

He had never married. At least no wife was ever seen or spoken of. He lived with this sister, a grim-faced woman who always wore a bonnet in the house; the bonnet had been new for their father's funeral, the village said. When it was worn "forrad," the Old Man told us, cocking his clerical hat in illustration, "her's in a good temper—more or less. When tes fell back'ard look out for squalls."

Their quarrels were the talk of the village. In the upshot the cottage was divided exactly in halves, with a partition down the middle and two doors. Even this *apartheid* was not wholly satisfactory, for he sometimes used her doorstep, which was kept tantalisingly white, for abstruse calculations with a burnt stick. They had some relation to the Wagon and Horses. But he never explained it. There were moments when I could see him with Falstaff at the "old place in Eastcheap" and Doll Tearsheet at his elbow; other moments when I caught a glimpse of some finer metal—even a gleam of chivalry.

He came to the door one Sunday morning, wearing a clean white neckerchief and carrying a small basket in which on a clean white cloth lay four large parsnips, scrubbed to a matching whiteness. "You telled me her didn't like 'em" ("her" was anybody or thing from a wheelbarrow to Squire's wife—in this instance my sister). "So you don't never grow 'em, but you said you was rather partial to 'em yourslef."

There came a day when Sarah-Annie uttered her last malediction upon him. He told us of it with a pretence of good riddance, but his old voice cracked when he swore at a niece who wanted him to take his place as chief mourner in the hired car and spoke of the distance to the church.

"Am not go'an in no cars if tes at the back-edge o' beyond. I'll foller our Sarah-Annie on foot, I tells 'ee."

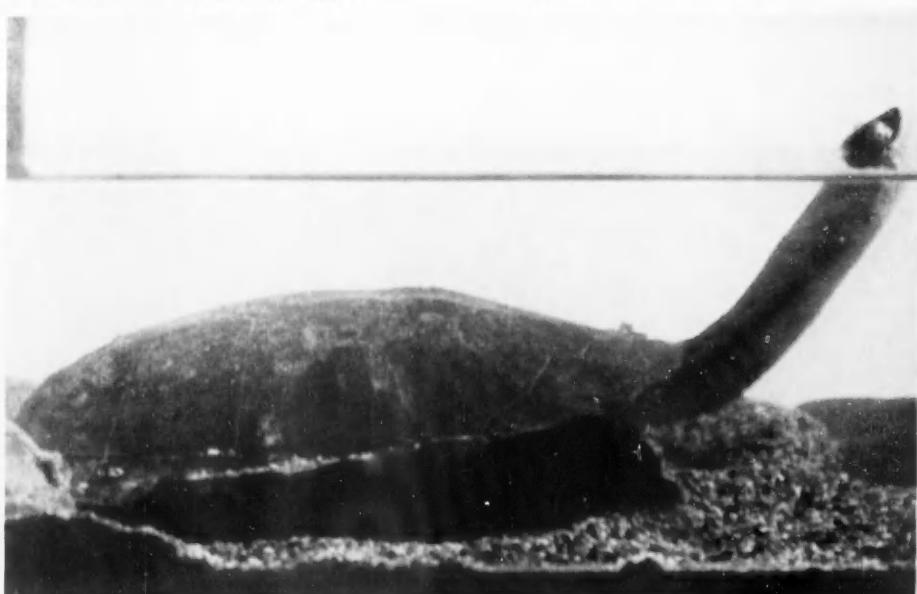
He did so, leaning on a stout stick. We remembered that we had never known him use one. It was, we thought, a first secret admission that he was an Old Man; that and the fact that he forgot to wear the new hat which the niece thrust upon him. Unawares—or was it unawares?—he "followed" in the weather-stained clerical heirloom of everyday.

A FRIENDLY TERRAPIN

By AUDREY NOEL HUME

I FIRST saw MacTaggart sitting dejectedly in the tank of a seaside pet shop four years ago when my husband and I were on a touring holiday in Kent. Unfortunately, it was then Tuesday and, as we were not going home until Saturday, it seemed unlikely that he would be welcomed in the hotel; and there were already eight terrapins in our house and garden. These objections came from my husband, and it seemed to me that they could be overcome without difficulty. I set to work to win him round to my point of view, and after a long discussion we agreed upon a compromise. We would alter our plans and on Friday would return to the town in question; if the terrapin was still there I could buy him. For the rest of the week I hoped and hoped that nobody else would take a liking to him, and took comfort from the fact that the pet shop was at the back of the town and would be found by only an enthusiastic animal-lover. I knew that if any other terrapin keeper did see him in the window, all would be lost, for this was no ordinary terrapin; he belonged to a species rarely imported into this country, the Australian snake-necked terrapin.

At last, when I thought that the week would never end, Friday morning came and we set out for the pet shop. There in a small tank of cloudy green water I could just discern the outline of the reptile. Now only the price remained to be investigated, so without disclosing that I knew anything about terrapins I asked the proprietor how much he was asking for the "animal" in the tank. The price staggered me, for twenty-five shillings was only a quarter of the usually quoted price for these terrapins. My conscience triumphed, and I asked the man whether he knew exactly the species to which this terrapin belonged. He identified it correctly, adding that he was anxious to be rid of it. I gladly produced the twenty-five shillings, for, although I had seen that the terrapin's shell was in a bad state, he was fairly fat and active. So that night there was a third occupant of our room and the hotel manager not only gave us permission to put him in the wash basin but provided some raw meat for his supper.



MACTAGGERT, THE AUTHOR'S AUSTRALIAN SNAKE-NECKED TERRAPIN, IN HIS WATER TANK

The question of a name provoked much discussion, but we eventually settled for MacTaggart in honour of an elderly Scotsman who, having found the remains of some strange creature on a beach in his native land, travelled all the way to London in order to show his discovery to the experts. However, they greeted him with little enthusiasm and pronounced his monster to be a common basking shark; but whatever were the rights and the wrongs of the problem I felt his enterprise worthy of commemoration.

When we reached home and the rest of our animal family we were able to take a close look at MacTaggart. He is fully grown, which means that his dark brown shell is about eight inches long. The parts of his skin within his shell are cream in colour and contrast vividly with the black of his feet, tail and the upper half of his head and neck. The length of the neck, half that of the shell, is responsible for the name "snake-necked". Obviously the neck cannot fold straight back into the shell, so MacTaggart curves it in an S-bend with the head pressed against the retracted front foot. The curve can go in either direction and is changed fairly frequently to avoid cramp or to see what is happening on the other side. MacTaggart flicks his neck out and in with amazing speed, especially when he is out of the water. On one sad occasion he folded up too quickly and cracked his head on the inside of his shell, and it was a very dazed terrapin that eventually reappeared.

MacTaggart's shell was in a far worse condition than I had seen at first. Tortoises, and more especially terrapins, are subject to a form of shell rot which attacks the actual bone

of the shell but not the horny covering. The latter has to be lifted away over the affected part, which must be scraped clean with the point of a needle—a treatment which is as painful for the patient as it is tedious for the surgeon. However, while the beauty of MacTaggart's shell had to be sacrificed, the disease was checked and he has remained in good health ever since.

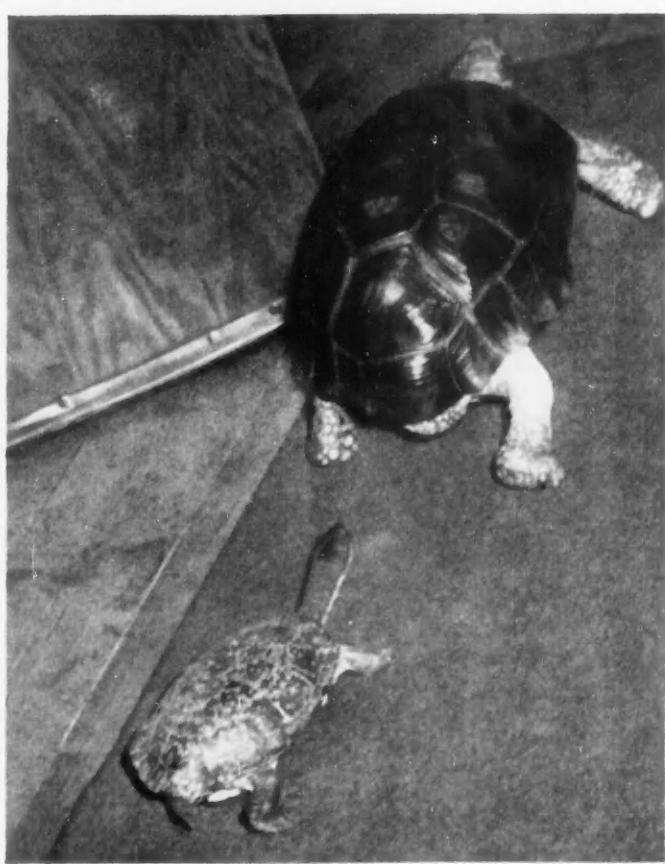
The snake-necked terrapins of Australia come from the warmer parts of that continent and therefore, though it would be safe for MacTaggart to spend summer days in the garden pond, he must live indoors at nights and in the winter. He shares his indoor home—a large tank of heated water—with two other terrapins, Susan from the southern United States and Pots from the paddy fields of the Far East. Although Susan makes occasional bids for leadership of the trio, I think there is really no doubt that it belongs to MacTaggart. He usually takes first choice of the food and will give Susan a swift but effective nip on the leg if she attempts to usurp his position. The three live on a basic diet of raw horse and whale meat, but they also enjoy pork luncheon meat and prawns.

In the summer MacTaggart spends his days either swimming in the garden pond or sunbathing on its edge. The European pond tortoises, the regular inhabitants of the enclosure, are tolerant of him, and the elderly male actually allows him to court one of his harem of four younger and more attractive pond tortoises.

During the winter MacTaggart spends the days in the tank, but in the evenings, when the house is really warm, he is allowed to roam about as he likes. He strikes up strange and one-sided friendships with some of my other animals, following them about from room to room and sleeping beside them in their beds. His most regular friend is Tigellinus, my Brazilian Giant tortoise, who refuses to take the slightest notice of the devoted terrapin and who has been known to reverse direction suddenly and walk over the unfortunate MacTaggart. One night, when all the reptiles refused to acknowledge his presence, I found him strutting along behind my pet hedgehog who eventually took refuge in a shopping basket.

On summer nights MacTaggart is usually to be found in the bathroom under the bottom rung of the heated towel rail, but in the winter I wrap him and his companions in lengths of blanket and place them on top of a hot-water bottle. However, when I make my last round of the house to see that all the animals are safely settled for the night, there is usually a bulge under the end of Tigellinus's blanket, and as long as all is quiet I never have the heart to disturb the sleeping MacTaggart.

Illustrations: Ivor Noel Hume.



MACTAGGERT FOLLOWING TIGELLINUS, THE AUTHOR'S BRAZILIAN GIANT TORTOISE. He strikes up one-sided friendships with a variety of animals

CHINESE WOODCUTS OF THREE CENTURIES

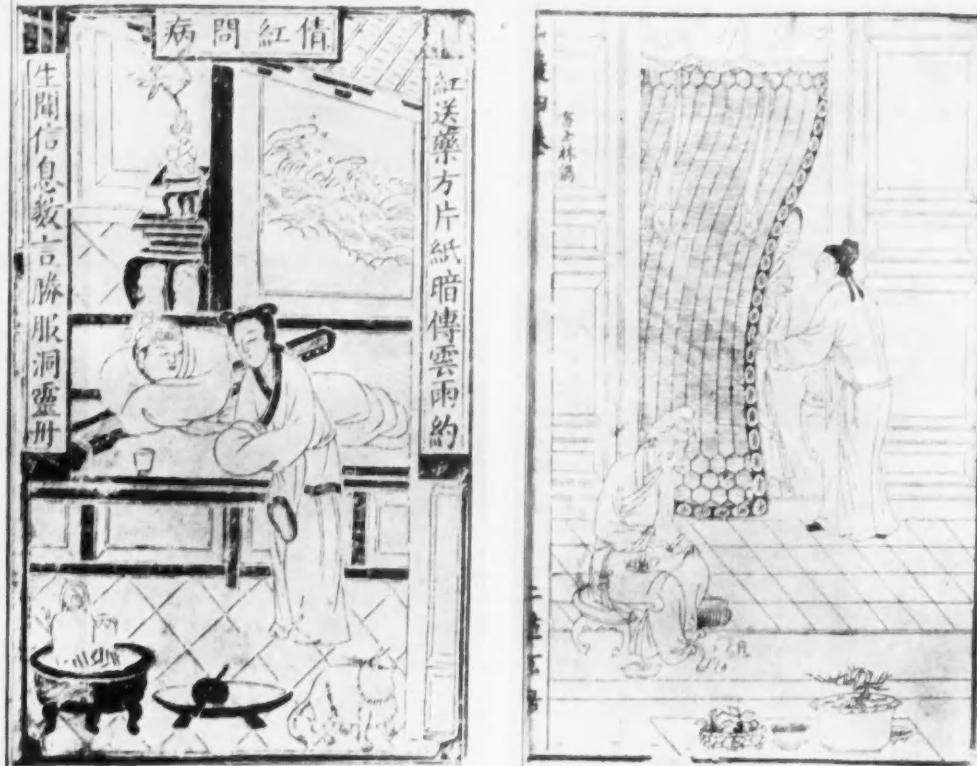
By SU-HUA LING CHEN

"HAVE you such beautiful prints in China?" I have often been asked this question in recent years by English friends when we were looking at Japanese colour prints together. "Of course we have," I answered. "In fact, Japanese prints derive from China."

Japanese colour prints, *Ukiyoyé* prints (freely translated, "picture of the floating world") were popular in the west in the late 19th and the early 20th century. Some great masters of the Impressionist school even showed the influence of the *Ukiyoyé* in their works.

After the war there were definite signs of a revival of that interest; we may remember in recent years, whenever there was an exhibition of Japanese colour prints, organised by either museum, art council or art gallery, people in this country often gave them a warm welcome. I think they might just as well see Chinese wood-block prints; it is time to introduce them to the west. Perhaps from the early Ming to the early Ching Dynasties, from Jung-Lo to Kan-Shih (1403-1723), is the most important three centuries in the history of Chinese wood-block prints. It may deserve our study.

The earliest wood-block print still existing in China to-day is the frontispiece to the *Chin-Kan-Chung* made by Wang Chieh in 868 in the Tang Dynasty; it already shows a high level of skill in the art of engraving. And it was then some 540 years before the first wood engraving was made in Europe. In the Sung Dynasty (960-1278) the art of book printing had



1.—A SCENE FROM THE POPULAR DRAMA *WESTERN CHAMBER*, DESIGNED AND ENGRAVED BY HO-CHING IN 1569. A scholar falls in love with a great beauty, but becomes ill because he cannot find a way of meeting her. Suddenly her maid arrives with a message. Even the cat is excited. (Right) 2.—SURPRISE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN TWO YOUNG LOVERS, ENGRAVED BY HUANG YU-LIN, ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN MEMBERS OF THE HUANG FAMILY, WHO WERE DISTINGUISHED ENGRAVERS AT THE END OF THE 16th AND BEGINNING OF THE 17th CENTURY. The old woman in the foreground shares the lovers' happiness



3.—AN ILLUSTRATION IN SHIH-YU, FREELY TRANSLATED AFTER COMPOSING A POEM, BY A MEMBER OF THE WONG FAMILY OF AN-HWEI PROVINCE. This picture is full of poetic significance. The magnolia is in flower and horses are impatiently waiting while two grooms are watching with delight

reached a certain perfection in both technique and quality. Books printed in the Sung period are still to-day much sought after by many distinguished libraries of the world.

The art of engraving was widely used in China during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Wood-block prints were developed quickly. They reached a high level of skill during the reign of Yung-Lo (1403-1425), when China was very prosperous and peaceful. People began to look for art, and popular editions of novels and dramas were illustrated with fine engravings.

During the Chai Chin to Lung Chin periods (1522-1572) printing became a specialised business in China. A well-known firm was in Chien-An, Fu-Kien province, South China. At that time nearly every book printed in Chien-An was illustrated, and most of the engravers were also painters, so they knew how to reproduce the effect of their brush-work through their tools. The engravers' names were often seen on the corners of the printed pictures. At this time Liu Lung-Tien began to make whole-page-size illustrations which was unusual and attractive. We find them in the *West Chamber* Ming edition.

In the Wang-Li period (1573-1620) the art of engraving was widely developed. There were several important families who took up this business seriously. The best known family was that of the Huangs, who lived in a small village called

Jeu-Tsing, in An-Hwei province. From the last quarter of the 16th century until the end of the 17th many talented engravers who had learnt the technique from their fathers and grandfathers lived there and contributed their works. To-day, if we examine some fine illustrations of the Ming and early Ching editions, we often find that they are made by one of the Huangs. The most distinguished are Huang Ting and Huang Yu-Lin. The Huangs illustrated many kinds of books, popular novels, dramas, Buddhist and Confucius text and collections of lyrical songs. All of them are much admired to-day.

From the middle of Wang-Li till the end of Chun-Tsien (1603-1644) there were several distinguished engravers in the same province as the Huangs. They were Wong Chung-Shin, Wong Chun-Pu, Lui Ying-Chiu, Cheng Sun-Tsing, Chiang Te-Chien and Hong Kuo-Liang. They all enjoyed the same success as the Huangs. Their styles were almost indistinguishable and their skill reached a high level in the art of engraving. They all seem to have portrayed what they saw and they showed their ability and sensitiveness in expressing their artistic and poetical feelings.

There were many fine woodcuts in Chin-Ling (Nanking) about the same period. Some of them were book illustrations, which represent the finest examples of Chinese woodcuts of that period. Hu Chung-Yen was the first to introduce the method of embossing in the making of Chinese woodcuts. His method enhances the attractiveness of colour by rendering it more harmonious to our eyes. It was a pity that this remarkable technique was gradually lost during the Ching Dynasty.

A characteristic of the Ten Bamboo Studio (to which I shall refer later) is that all the patterns they reproduced were fresh and they were made to the taste of a literary school which regards art as something personal, a poetic expression of culture. The best collections I have seen are in the Peking Library, the Fogg Museum of Art and the British Museum. The colour is superb. One believes no machine



4 and 5.—A DOUBLE PAGE ILLUSTRATION OF THE STORY OF AN ANCIENT KING WHO LIKES WINE AND WOMEN, BUT WHOSE QUEEN REFUSES TO SEE LADIES UNDRESSING. The best reproduction of the Huang's works, having been cut in 1610 by Huang Ying Chu. The delicate lines and bolder brushwork are the best examples of the Wang-Li period

can produce anything equal to what comes from the human hand of an artist.

There were other distinguished woodcuts about the same period which were also made in An Hwei province, known as the Tai-Ping landscape prints. They were edited and designed by Hsiao Yung-Chun, a painter and poet. In 1648 he painted a series of beautiful scenes of his country and got the best engravers, Liu Yung, Tan San and Tan Yi, for them. They were printed on a double full-page size. Both technique and design are worthy of our admiration. Some are of flowers, birds and landscapes which are useful for art students and used for patterns in porcelain and other decorative work. No engravers' names appeared on the prints, but we may find the names of the studio or of the owners.

The Chinese colour prints in the British Museum, known as the Sloane and Kaempfer collection, were made in Soo-Chow, about the beginning of the Ching Dynasty. Soo-Chow was then a most prosperous town near Nanking. The technique of the work in that collection was highly accomplished, but it seems lacking in imagination and poetical atmosphere. It was said that Dr. Kaempfer bought those prints about 1690 in Japan, where he stayed for two years. He died in 1722, and this collection was sold to Sir Hans Sloane together with some Japanese prints. Then it was kept in Sloane's library and taken for Japanese colour prints for nearly two centuries. Afterwards the Sloane Library was acquired by the British Museum. In 1916 these Chinese woodcuts were taken out from the Japanese prints by Laurence Binyon and marked as Chinese colour prints. They found their place at last in the department of Oriental Antiquities. This collection was not shown to the English public till 1952, when Basil Gray, of the British Museum, finally brought them together in a special exhibition for which he wrote an introduction. (Chinese scholars must

be grateful to him for he mentioned that Japanese colour prints derive from China.)

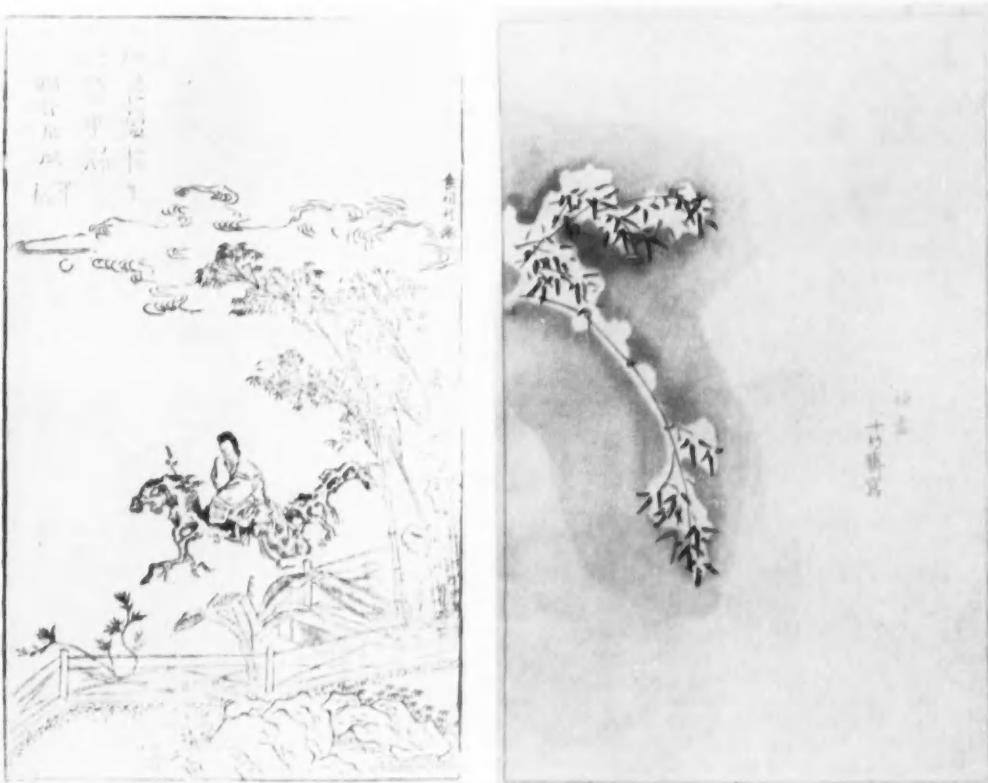
But the Soo-Chow school of prints do not represent the major part of Chinese engravings. Lately I have seen in the British Museum more fine Chinese prints of the later Ming and early Ching period which are not yet on show. The most important ones, of course, are the colour

prints by the Ten Bamboo Studio. I hope they will be shown to the public before long, for I think they will be appreciated by art lovers here as they are in China.

For more than 4,000 years, China had been ruled by a monarch, but her people had never been divided into classes such as nobles and commoners. They were divided into four kinds—scholars, farmers, artisans and merchants. If a man or his family wished to get to the top class, he himself might decide to study hard or to send his son to school so as to be able to take the Court examinations and to become a learned man. During the Ming Dynasty there were significant signs of this. Art was joining hands with literature. Towards the end of the Ming Dynasty the most popular type of colour print was made on *shih-chien* and *shin-chien* (paper for poems and letter paper) which were chiefly selected and edited for the taste of literary men. The best known and highly respected firm was called the Ten Bamboo Studio. In China a poem written on the Ten Bamboo Studio *shih-chien* or a letter written by a scholar or a poet on *shin-chien* would cost as much as a painting by a great master.

The productions of the Ten Bamboo Studio were edited and illustrated by Hu Chung-yan, a native of An-Hwei province. His later life was passed in Nanking, where he made many friends of distinguished artists and men of letters. Besides designing letter paper and poem-papers he edited and published a series of art books. The best known books are *Selected Paintings by the Ten Bamboo Studio*, which contains hundreds of pictures and new patterns.

Illustrations: 1. Peking Library; 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Collection of Cheng Chen Te.



6.—AN ILLUSTRATION OF A POETIC DRAMA ENGRAVED BY LU SU-MING IN THE LATE 16th CENTURY, WHEN THE ART OF ENGRAVING REACHED ITS HIGHEST LEVEL. The girl dreams of riding on a tree in her garden and flies to her lover. (Right) 7.—BAMBOO IN SNOW: A PAGE FROM SELECTED PAINTINGS BY THE TEN BAMBOO STUDIO. An example showing the taste of the literary school in the late 17th and early 18th centuries

RACING NOTES

SOME GREAT ALL-ROUNDERS

By DARE WIGAN

ONE of the features of modern racing is the increasing popularity of dual-purpose horses, by which I mean animals that are capable of winning on the flat in summer and over hurdles or fences in winter. At one time there was a dividing line between the qualities required of a horse that was destined for jumping and those looked for in an animal intended for flat-racing, and a buyer in search of a horse that might one day win him a Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup would have insisted on its having proved jumping blood on one side of its pedigree at least. Nowadays it is different, and owners and trainers set out light-heartedly for France or to the Newmarket December Sales with the sole object of buying a good-class flat-racing horse that might make a jumper.

As an example of the emphasis that is placed on speed on the flat when it comes to racing over hurdles, one has only to glance at the list of runners for the Egham Novices' Hurdle Race for three-year-olds run at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, where the first four, in order of finishing, were Roman Festival, a chestnut

horse, for after two seasons of hurdling, culminating in victory in the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup at Cheltenham, he was ridden in gallops at Lambourn by Steve Donoghue, who suggested that he had the making of a great stayer on the flat, and he never ran in a hurdle race again. By breeding, too, Brown Jack was a direct contradiction of the dual-purpose horse of modern times, for he was bred in Ireland on accredited jumping lines, being by Jackdaw from Querquidella, a mare by Kroonstad out of Garganey. Admittedly, Jackdaw had come to Ascot in 1912, and won the Queen Alexandra Stakes, the race that was to make his son, who won it six times in the years 1929 to 1934, famous. But he was essentially a jumper, and was a proved sire of jumpers. And so far as is known, apart from Brown Jack, Querquidella never foaled an animal that achieved anything of note on the flat.

There is no doubt that Brown Jack was something of a freak among race-horses, and had

then came Hatton's Grace, a plain gelding, who, in addition to winning the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup three times in succession, was capable of carrying 10 stone to victory in the Irish Cesarewitch of 1950. And after Hatton's Grace came Sir Ken, a bay gelding, bred in France by a German sire, Laeken, from Carte Grise II. Sir Ken ran only once on the flat in this country, when he got home by a short head in a maiden plate worth £138 at Ripon on April 27, 1951. But in view of the fact that he started at 15 to 8 on it is reasonable to assume that he had shown considerable ability on his home gallops, and that had he not turned out to be an immediate and emphatic success over hurdles, he would have won his fair share of races under Jockey Club rules.

Perhaps the most versatile race-horse of recent years was Knock Hard, winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup in 1953. In 1950 Knock Hard, a chestnut gelding by Domaha, out of Knocksound by Beresford, had won the Irish Lincolnshire Handicap run over one mile on the Curragh. Then, in 1952, this remarkable animal, after running a couple of "bumpers" races at Lewes and Worcester respectively, ran third in the Liverpool Autumn Cup, and a week later went to Manchester, where he was beaten by a neck in the November Handicap. Then, in February, 1953, he won the Great Yorkshire Handicap Steeplechase at Doncaster, before going on to his triumph at Cheltenham.

On June 21, 1952, when Knock Hard won the Coventry Plate for amateur riders at Birmingham, the runner-up was Mr. S. Wootton's Noholme, a brown gelding by Bakhtawar, out of Acornut, by Caroado. Mr. Wootton is known to be an excellent judge of a horse, but when he bought Noholme he fairly excelled himself. All who follow racing have their idea of the horse that they would most like to own, but I think that of all the horses that I have seen since the war Noholme would be my choice, assuming that I could afford to own one only and could not afford a large capital outlay.

Noholme has proved to be the complete all-rounder, and a very good one at that. Indeed, he might fairly be described as the George Hirst of racing. On the flat he is essentially a seven furlongs performer. That is his distance, for a mile in a fast-run race is just beyond him, and six furlongs does not give him time to settle down and produce his pulverising burst of finishing speed. Altogether, he has won 15 races on the flat, 10 over hurdles, and 2 over fences, a total of 27, and at nine years of age he is still going strong. He has been entered again this year for the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup, but one doubts if he will run for it, for though he was second to Sir Ken in 1952 he is getting a trifle old for that kind of thing, and in any event, Cheltenham, with its stiff uphill finish, is scarcely his course.

But what a grand horse he has been, and still is, for apart from his exceptional ability he has shown that he can act on any going, and go for any rider. If any one of those promising young riders, Messrs. Broadway, Bunker, Iddenden and H.M. Jones should eventually become champion jockey, he will have almost as much cause to be grateful to Noholme as to Stanley Wootton himself, who is unrivalled at the art of turning raw apprentices into accomplished horsemen, as C. Smirke, perhaps the most brilliant and resourceful jockey riding to-day, would no doubt readily admit.

Indeed, the only doubt that I have in nominating Noholme as the horse that I would have liked to own most during the last seven or eight years is whether I should have been able to find a trainer who would have been able to do him justice. The observation is not intended to be a reflection on the ability of trainers in this country. On the contrary, I am convinced that the art of training race-horses is more highly developed here than anywhere else in the world. But one has only to take a look at Noholme to appreciate that he is a character, and Mr. Wootton has a genius for training such animals.



MR. S. WOOTTON'S NOHOLME, RIDDEN BY B. MARSHALL, WINNING THE PANGBOURNE HURDLE RACE AT WINDSOR IN 1952. Noholme is an outstanding example of a horse that is as much at home over hurdles as he is on the flat.

colt by the Gold Cup winner, Caracalla II, from Marriage Day, a Hyperion mare; Rocko, a chestnut gelding by Rocketella, from Navigator's Delight, by Precipitation; Eburitico, a brown colt by Amour Drake, from Libertine, by Ballyogan; and Michelino, a brown colt by Big Game, from Cap d'Or, a mare by Gold Bridge. Moreover, among the also-rans on that occasion were Acton, foaled in France as a result of the mating of Fair Copy and Fiorella, a mare by Felicitation, and Court of Claims, a chestnut colt by Court Martial, who at this time last year was thought to have more than an outside chance of winning the Two Thousand Guineas.

It is not easy to explain the transition from the old-style type of hurdler and steeplechaser who relied on his ability to out-jump his opponents to win races and the modern version, who is apt to treat obstacles with scant respect, but who, if he avoids glaring errors, is calculated to smother the opposition for speed on the run-in. It is only a guess, but one suspects that the exploits of Brown Jack may have had something to do with the change, although Brown Jack was the antithesis of flat-racer turned hurdler, having been, in fact, one of the few horses to have reversed the process. Nor could Brown Jack be described truthfully as a dual-purpose

it not been for the perception of Steve Donoghue it is probable that he would have been remembered as an outstanding hurdler and, by those associated with him, as a lovable character. Certainly, there were no signs of enterprising owners dashing over to Ireland in the hope of discovering potential Ascot winners put out to grass in Cork or Tipperary. But, as I have suggested, it is possible that Brown Jack's metamorphosis set people's minds working in a different direction, and it is, perhaps, significant that from 1936, two years after Brown Jack's retirement, the list of winners of the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup begins to take on a new look. For example, in 1936 the race was won by Victor Norman, who was also a useful performer on the flat; and the following year it was won by Free Fare, who had won the Manchester November Handicap of 1935. And after that the flat-racers got going with a vengeance, so that hardly a year passed when the finish did not concern one or more animals that had won races under Jockey Club rules.

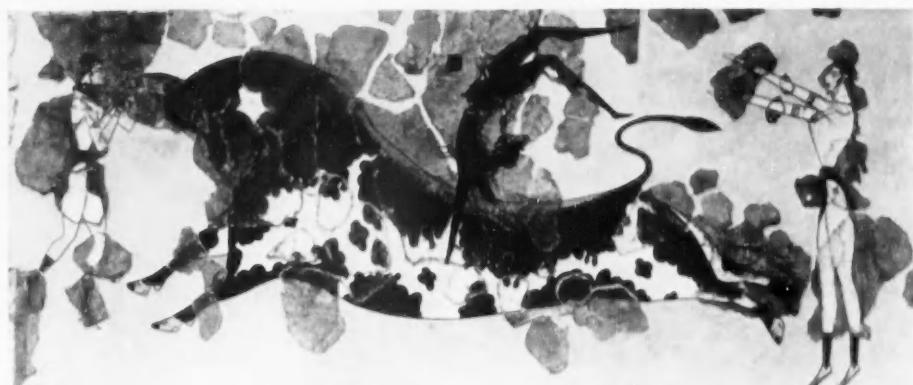
Since the war dual-purpose horses have had it all their own way at Cheltenham. In 1946 and 1947 National Spirit was the winner, and he had sufficient speed to enable him to run 13 races on the flat worth close on £7,000.

MINOAN BULL-JUMPING: HOW WAS IT DONE? ~ By JOHN HILLS

IT is impudent for one who is neither archaeologist nor acrobat nor scholar nor bull-fighter to attempt to solve the various problems presented by the famous bull-jumping fresco at Knossos in Crete. But I have visited the "theatrical area" at the palace, which was possibly the bull-ring, and I have been surprised by its lack of space, for it is little larger than a tennis court. And I have studied not only the fresco but also various exhibits in the museum at Heraklion, in particular the incredibly beautiful ivory Acrobat and the seals on which bulls or acrobats are engraved. In my solution I assume that the royal artist, in that sophisticated period which could produce the Harvester vase and the Vaphio cup, can be relied on to depict what he actually saw—two girls and a man giving an acrobatic turn. The first girl is standing in the bull's path, the man is diving head first on to the bull's back and somersaulting off again, to be steadied on landing by the other girl, who is ready for him somewhat to the left of the bull's hind quarter. The angle of the man's arms and the placing of this girl's feet suggest that the dive was slightly diagonal. The bull is going fast but he is not charging head down. If he lowered his head on seeing the figures in his path, he has raised it again before, and not after, contact with the first girl. There is no sign of the terrifying sideways thrust which the angry bull uses before tossing or goring an enemy.

To describe the scene, I have used a modern medium and imagined two broadcasts by the Minoan Dimbleby, one on the day before and the other during the show. Only the relevant parts of these are given. He calls these acrobats from the mainland "Greeks." This is a deliberate anachronism, but it is shorter than "mainlanders," and it serves to remind us of the later legend of Theseus.

First Broadcast. "At last after five long years the Greeks are here again. I met them yesterday when they came ashore from their ship. This morning they reached the palace and to-morrow they will perform in the theatre. At this moment they are at the bull farm, where we shall be taking you very shortly. They are to choose a bull or bulls; their final act will be a bull-jumping display. It is said that if they can find two or three suitable bulls they will do the jump more than once. Their leader told me that they had also rope-walkers



THE BULL-JUMPING FRESCO FROM THE PALACE OF MINOS AT KNOSSOS IN CRETE. In the author's interpretation the acrobat on the bull's back dived from the shoulders of the girl on the left, somersaulted over and was caught by the girl on the right

and pole vaulters; that two of them can walk all round the ring on their fingers; that there is a girl who is thrown six paces through the air in a beautiful dive. The girls look as strong as the men. There are

(description of the acrobats)

"I asked why they had not been here for so many years. It seems that after the fatal accident to the girl six years ago—you remember that she slipped and was gored to death by the bull—a story quickly spread through the Greek cities that Greek girls were taken to the palace of Minos and sacrificed to a savage monster, half bull and half man. As a result it had proved almost impossible to find young men and young women willing to be trained for the sport and willing to cross the sea. And now we are taking you to the royal bull farm."

Second Broadcast. "The theatre is full to capacity. I am just beside and to the left of the royal box, in the seats facing the north. Those in the rows facing west already have the sun almost in their eyes, for it is well past midday. Just below me, and within reach of my left hand, is the gate at the end of the passage which leads to the bull pens. From this gate a line runs straight across the ring to another gate, about 15 paces away on the far side. This gate leads into another pen where there are bins of corn and bean mash, ready for the bull after he has performed. They say that two bulls will be jumped. Both have been practised. They have been loosed several times from the pens and driven fast across the ring to the food pen. This was yesterday evening. Since then they have remained unfed. They are wilder and more active when they are hungry; perhaps also they are more dangerous; but they are also more anxious to reach the food pen and less interested in the acrobats.

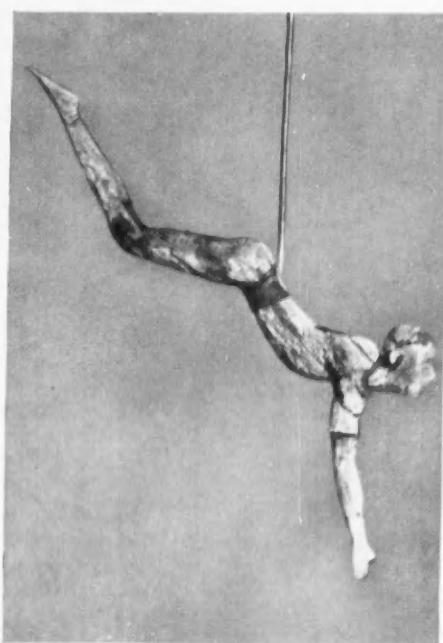
"From my seat I shall have a superb view. The bull will rush out almost beneath me and I shall be in the direct line of the jump, for the man will dive straight towards me. As we still have a few moments to wait, for there is still no sign of the Greeks coming along the paved way from their lodgings, I will describe some of those whom I can see in the seats round me. First there are the royal ladies . . .

"Now here are the Greeks . . . they march round, led by the bull-jumper." (He describes the members of the team and then each turn as it takes place.)

"And now for the last turn. The bull-jumping. The ring is clear. Only the leader, who, as I said, looks much older than the rest of the performers, and two of the girls are still there. There is a man by the gate to the food pen. All the rest have disappeared through the gate beside me; gone to fetch the bull. Close beside me, just to the left of the gate, is stationed the girl who will catch the jumper. She is very tall and straight and looks supremely competent. The other stands facing us, beautifully poised. She can't be more than ten paces from the royal box, perhaps a little less, just

where the bull's line crosses the paved road. She is very lovely, this girl, and appears quite calm. I must say that the jumper himself is looking a little anxious. And no wonder. She's linking her hands behind her back to make a step for him. He has his hands on her shoulders . . . he puts his right foot on her hands and now . . . a light spring up and he's kneeling on her shoulders. They join hands and she's steadying him. He's slowly bringing up his right foot . . . and now he's straightening his right leg . . . and . . . up comes his left foot. He's up. Standing up straight with his arms crossed. She's got her hands just behind his ankles to steady him. What a wonderful pair.

"Now he's raising his arms. A shout, you heard it, and a clash of cymbals. The gate's open and . . . and . . . here's the bull . . . going like the wind . . . it's seen . . . head down . . . he's dived . . . hands on the bull . . . legs coming over. The bull seemed to sense him in the air . . . just checked . . . lifted his head. The girl side-stepped and, yes, I saw her, she pushed herself off the bull with her hands on its horns. The other girl moved into line to catch the jumper, but there was no need. He made a perfect landing. There was no need to steady him. I can see the bull, over the far gate, with its head in the mash bin. Wonderful. Absolutely perfect timing. But I thought the girl



IVORY FIGURE OF A BULL-JUMPER FROM HERAKLION MUSEUM. These acrobats may have been the Greeks celebrated in the legend of the Minotaur



SEAL FROM HERAKLION MUSEUM DEPICTING BULL FEEDING WITH ACROBAT SOMERSAULTING BETWEEN ITS HORNS

had had it. It seemed impossible that she could get out of the beast's way in time. If the bull had gone on head down, I don't believe that she could have got away. It was almost unbearable. It's as well it all happens so quickly, for I couldn't possibly breathe while it was going on. As it is, I'm sweating. It was the check and the head lift, when the bull saw the flying figure. It just gave her time.

"The three are now standing in front of the King. The King is standing up in their honour. We're all standing."

LUSCOMBE CASTLE, DEVON—III

THE SEAT OF SIR PETER HOARE, BT.

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

The house designed by Nash in 1799 in collaboration with Repton was finished about 1804, much of the furniture being made by Thomas Chippendale the younger.

To amateurs of Regency furniture the younger Thomas Chippendale is an interesting figure on account of his famous name, the distinctive quality and rarity of his identified work and the touch of drama which bankruptcy brings to his sparse biography. Hitherto documented furniture by him has been found in only two houses—Harewood and Stourhead—though payments to him are recorded in accounts at Wilton (1790) and Raynham (1819). In the drawing room at Luscombe, designed by Nash for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoare in 1799, the contemporary furnishing struck me by its resemblance to Chippendale's work at Stourhead for the builder's brother, Sir Richard Colt Hoare. Confirmation of this surmise, from entries in Mr. Hoare's accounts of payments to him totalling £1,424 between 1796 and 1808, makes a notable addition to the younger Chippendale's documented work, and is the more satisfactory for the completeness given to this early Nash house, designed in collaboration with Humphry Repton.



L. THE SOUTH SIDE. THE PROJECTION IN THE CENTRE, EXTENDING THE DRAWING-ROOM, WAS MADE ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. The end of the "viranda" is seen on the right, the window of the small library on the left



2. THE OCTAGONAL DRAWING-ROOM, LOOKING SOUTH-WEST

All the pieces that seem to be identified with Chippendale are contained in the drawing-room, for the original decoration of which, by analogy with his work at Stourhead, he may also have been partly responsible. But of this we cannot be sure, because the accounts record only unspecified lump payments. No detailed bills have come to light, and the room itself has been redecorated—though an early 19th-century water-colour (Fig. 3) indicates its original appearance.

The room was enlarged a little later by the addition of a southward extension, possibly to provide a sunny corner where the delicate Mrs. Hoare could sit. Nash's plan and Repton's perspective sketches show the octagonal tower, which contains the room, rising sheer between the Gothick "viranda" or conservatory on its east and the porch-like window of the small library on its west (Fig. 1). "Two large pointed mullioned windows" in the base of the tower lit the drawing-room. All these ground floor windows come down to floor level—an arrangement which the Hoares evidently desired. An outline drawing of the plan, which is probably the sketch of it first submitted by Nash, has a number of endorsements in Hoare's writing, one of which is "Q. if windows down to ground." Others ask whether "a walk can be had over the green ho. to Mrs. Hoare's dressing room" and "if a sundial may not with propriety be placed on the South front." It is possible to get on to the leads above the conservatory from the windows of the east bedroom; and the sundial can be seen on the south face of the tower (Fig. 1). Payment of £14 3s. 6d. to persons named Lister and Upjohn for "Sundial" is recorded in 1803.

Thus the drawing-room was originally an octagon, with a tall traceried sash window opening south, and, opposite the fireplace, the glass doors which still open into the conservatory. The upper lights of the latter contained stained glass like that still in the present library window. The intermediate sides of the octagon provide recesses described in 1817 as containing "a very valuable collection of books in most elegant bindings;" their upper

halves have now been closed in. The octagonal room cannot have been particularly comfortable to sit in; consequently the idea of adding a single storey extension to it southwards.

At Downton, Payne Knight had claimed as a virtue for his castle that it was "capable of receiving additions in almost any direction," and this was not the only point in common with it possessed by Nash's design for Luscombe. The castellated forebuilding seen in Fig. 1 was evidently not added till after 1817. The house may have looked slightly more like a castle when the full height of the tower was apparent; yet the drawing-room's projection marries in happily enough, and the shelter it gives has enabled two trees of *Magnolia grandiflora* to grow to splendid size in its lee. Provision of areas of wall for shrubs and climbers was recommended by Uvedale Price as one of the advantages of Picturesque architecture.

When one enters the drawing-room from the rather dark circular vestibule, which is the fulcrum of the plan, its relatively greater height and its lightness make a pleasing effect. On either side of the door (Fig. 6) is a massive mahogany pedestal of eclectic design, comprising a column of an unknown order and small lion-headed cabrioles with paw feet. One of them, as in the description of the room in 1817, carries the head of an unattractive child in marble, the "bust of young Nero" referred to in an account of 1793; the other, a notable statuary clock in white marble and ormolu, the movements by Vulliamy. Clocks of this type were then being acquired by the Prince Regent from Vulliamy and others; and there is a payment to him



3.—THE DRAWING-ROOM LOOKING EAST TO THE "VIRANDA"; THE SOUTH EXTENSION ON THE RIGHT. From a water-colour by Mrs. Charles Hoare (?) c. 1825.

Most of the furniture shown is still in the room

by Mr. Hoare in 1804, but since it was only £8 odd it can scarcely refer to this clock.

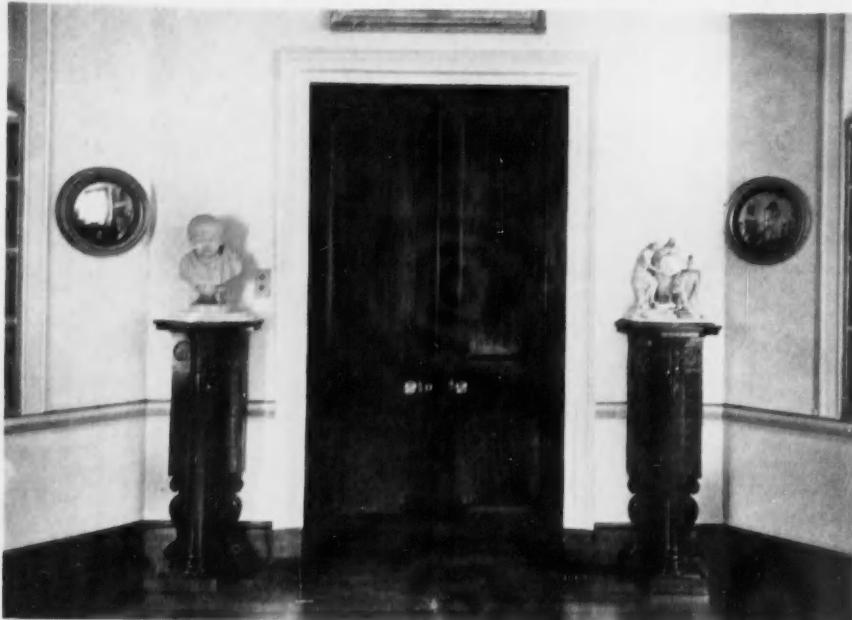
The chimney-piece (Fig. 5), of Neo-classical design in white statuary marble carved in relief with a Hellenistic figure in the upper part of each impost, has always been ascribed

to Flaxman. This is confirmed by payments to him in 1802-03 totalling £98 8s. The overmantel mirror with flanking strips in a gilt frame is of a late Adam type and was probably supplied by the younger Chippendale. The oval, painted in grisaille and framed in foliage,

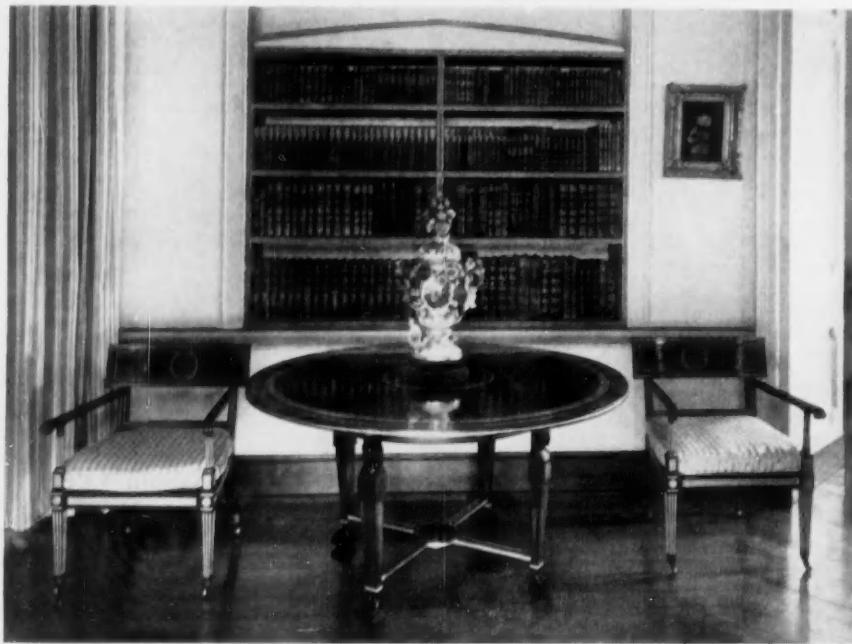


4.—THE SOUTH EXTENSION OF THE DRAWING-ROOM. The sofa (*left*) can be ascribed to the younger Chippendale. (*Right*) 5.—THE DRAWING-ROOM CHIMNEY-PIECE BY FLAXMAN; OVERMANTEL MIRROR PROBABLY BY THE YOUNGER CHIPPENDALE





6.—THE DRAWING-ROOM DOOR; THE FLANKING PEDESTALS CARRY A ROMAN BUST AND A CLOCK BY VULLIAMY



7.—A TABLE IN THE EGYPTIAN TASTE AND PAIR OF CHAIRS, BY THE YOUNGER CHIPPENDALE, c. 1803-4



8.—ONE OF FOUR STOOLS IN THE ROUND VESTIBULE. (Right) 9.—MAHOGANY SOFA TABLE, INLAID WITH SATINWOOD AND WITH GILT AND EBONISED LYRE SUPPORTS. By the younger Chippendale, c. 1803

with which it is surmounted, resembles the cresting of the great pier glasses in the gallery at Harewood, mentioned in an inventory of 1795, the console tables beneath which he is known to have supplied in 1797.

The first payment to him in Charles Hoare's accounts is in September, 1796, evidently for furnishing the house in Dawlish leased before the building of Luscombe. It amounted to £450 and was made to "Haig and Chippendale." Since the death of the older Chippendale in 1779 the business had been carried on by his partner and eldest son, but in this year Haig withdrew, proposing to realise his share in the firm by several bonds drawn on his successor. Chippendale the younger, however, was unable to meet the demand, and in 1802 Haig (who had intended to leave him £1,000) made a codicil to his will directing his executors to recover the money by such means as they saw fit. Whether or not in consequence, in 1804 Chippendale was declared bankrupt, and the stock in St. Martin's Lane sold by auction, including not only the furniture in the showroom and the timber in the workshop, but "the stocks of upholstery fabrics and brass ornaments." Nevertheless, Chippendale was able to carry on if in a smaller way, several of the most important of his pieces for Stourhead having been delivered in 1805, and he was still in business in 1820. The Hoare family were among his best patrons, Sir Richard spending thousands of pounds with him between 1795 and 1820; indeed it may be inferable from the amount of business given to him by the Hoare brothers about this time that they tried, whether as bankers or simply as old clients, to tide him over the crisis in his affairs.

In any case Luscombe was ready for Charles Hoare to buy £900 worth of furniture in 1803-04; thereafter he made small purchases: £17 in 1806, £4 in 1807 and £53 in 1808. There were thus two main groups of acquisitions, though it is scarcely possible to distinguish between them now. Indeed the items supplied in 1796 may well have been relatively homely things for the furnishing of the leased house, such as curtains and bedroom equipment, which are not now identifiable. Judging by style, moreover, the 1803-04 order almost certainly included most of the pieces in the present drawing room, all of which can also be identified in the sketch (Fig. 3). The most handsome are the round table of mahogany banded with satinwood and supported by four Egyptian figures (Fig. 7), and the accompanying set of eight arm-chairs partly gilded with cane seats, their backs inlaid with brass (Fig. 11). These chairs are very similar to a set in satinwood supplied to Stourhead about 1802, and now in the picture gallery there, which cost five guineas each. The sofa-table, of mahogany banded with satinwood and resting on gilded lyre supports (Fig. 9), is identical with one at



10.—MAHOGANY SOFA TABLE, GILT AND EBONISED. Chippendale, 1803 (?). (Right) 11.—MAHOGANY ARM-CHAIR, WITH GILT ENRICHMENT AND BRASS INLAY. CHIPPENDALE, c. 1803

Stourhead. A smaller table (Fig. 10) seen in the sketch standing no doubt in its original position in front of the sofa in the alcove has a curious serpentine stretcher and is a little coarser in design, suggesting that it was among the later items. The unusual stool (Fig. 8) is one of a set of four made presumably by Chippendale to stand in the round vestibule illustrated last week.

The sketch of the room shows the floor covered with a floral carpet fitted to the shape, several chintz-covered easy chairs, and Greek reliefs, probably painted and gilded, over the book shelves. These, together with the lamp bowl hanging from an eagle, have disappeared. But fragments of the gilded ornamentation depicted in the alcove have come to light under later paint and are seen in the photograph (Fig. 4), together with one of the original ebonised and gilt curtain-pelmets.

All this time the "improvements" and planting of the grounds to Repton's suggestions (Fig. 12) were going on. It would be interesting to be able to round off the documentation of this remarkable house by identifying the nurseries that supplied the trees which add so much to its beauty. Payments in the accounts to "John Veitch" raised my hopes that that historic Exeter nursery may be alluded to, but they occur so regularly that they probably refer to an employee, possibly the gardener. The firm's books, by which the question might be checked, apparently no longer exist. There is, however, a specific payment in 1803 to "P. Isaac, plantations, etc., £24" which presumably refers to a tree nursery. And £5 paid to "Lucombe for trees" certainly refers to a successor of the Exeter gardener and nurseryman who in 1765 produced the Lucombe oak by crossing the Cork and Turkey oaks—splendid specimens of which are to be seen in Luscombe's ever-green glades.



12.—THE VIEW EASTWARDS OVER DAWLISH, AS VISUALISED IN 1799 BY REPTON



13.—LUSCOMBE CASTLE FROM THE SOUTH-WEST. With the chapel designed by Gilbert Scott, 1852

NEW BOOKS

THE GOLDEN AGE OF FURNITURE

AMONG the many books that have been written on the history of English furniture during the past 30 years, *Georgian Cabinet-Makers*, by Ralph Edwards and the late Margaret Jourdain, first published in 1944, stands out, in company with a few others, as one of the most important books on this subject and one of the few books in this generously written-up field that has established itself as a standard and essential work of reference to student and collector alike. Everyone interested in this subject, and it would appear to be an ever-growing public, will welcome the new edition (COUNTRY LIFE, 3 gns.), which has been considerably revised and enlarged by Mr. Ralph Edwards. Putting off the austere dress of the "war economy standard" which dictated the format of the two previous editions, it is handsomely and stoutly produced, with a greatly increased number of photographs in a form more worthy of its authoritative contents.

New Names

The revisions and additions are of various kinds. "The number of 'lesser-known' craftsmen," to quote the author's note, "has been appreciably enlarged, and the previous total of eighty names has become over a hundred." Among the new names are those of Robert Sapp, who in 1739 supplied furniture to the New Treasury, Whitehall, and Eliza Haddock, who made the *sesta curulis* for the Dilettante Society in 1739, besides supplying furniture for both Rousham and Wilton. The revised list also includes one woman, Catherine Naish, "described as a 'joiner' in the Lord Chamberlain's accounts for furnishing the royal palaces early in George III's reign."

Mr. Edwards has also included the well-known German cabinet-maker, Abraham Roentgen, who worked in England from about 1731 to 1738 and propagated the mid-Georgian style in his own country. The addition of Roentgen, along with names included in the previous editions, such as Jensen and Pelletier—names that suggest a not-too-distant Continental background—reminds us of the vitally important link between English and foreign craftsmen and what the deft English cabinet-makers of the Georgian period owed to the immigrant craftsmen who settled in this country in the last 40 years of the 17th century.

Chippendale and Vile

Among the 28 articles on the better-known cabinet-makers, joiners and carvers, the work of several of whom is represented by furniture in the present exhibition of English taste at Burlington House, those on Chippendale and Vile are of outstanding importance. Both have been considerably enlarged and the number of photographs illustrating their work has been substantially increased. The article on William Vile is of particular importance, for there is nowhere else, except in a few isolated magazine articles, a complete essay on the work of his firm, which is now generally accepted as the finest carved mahogany furniture made in the Rococo style. It is remarkable, and shows how recent is the serious study of English furniture, that only 30 years ago the name of Vile, and that of his arrogant partner, John Cobb, were almost unknown to students of this subject, while leading experts accredited the fine work of Vile's firm to Chippendale, who in those days was held the unrivalled exponent of Rococo furniture. It is easy to be wise after the event, but it is largely due to the researches of the late Margaret Jourdain and of Ralph Edwards that we can now see so clearly the distinctive quality of design and construction of Vile's

furniture, particularly those pieces supplied to the Royal Household in the 1760s.

The section on Chippendale has also been amplified; work at further houses is included and there are more photographs. However, the most important revision on this cabinet-maker appears in a footnote in the introduction and concerns the question of who was actually responsible for the original drawings for the plates in the *Director*. Since the publication in 1929 of Kimball's and Donnell's two monographs, *The Creators of the Chippendale Style*, it has generally, and perhaps a little too readily, been accepted that Chippendale employed

Ornaments (1746), with the original drawings for the *Director* now in the Victoria and Albert and Metropolitan Museums. Mr. Edwards points out two valid objections to this process. First, is it possible to make a fair comparison between engravings, which are the only unquestionably authentic work of Copland available, and original drawings? Second, is it justifiable to apply a system of iconographic comparison, devised for an altogether more personal kind of drawing, to highly stylised furniture designs? There is much truth in the deductions of Fiske Kimball, and it certainly seems likely that Lock and Copland were employed by Chippendale, but

industry and scholarship of Mr. Edwards and the late Margaret Jourdain that we can learn as much as we do from *Georgian Cabinet-Makers*. And though no one would dispute that it is of less interest and importance to know about the maker of the Harewood commode than the painter of the Mona Lisa, the lives of these cabinet-makers and the organisation of their firms are of considerable significance to students of English furniture. For the careers of these men and the bills for their furniture provide the most reliable guide for the dating of English furniture and the rapidly changing tastes and fashions that guided its construction and decoration. All collectors and students of English 18th-century furniture will find this new edition of *Georgian Cabinet-Makers* an invaluable companion, both in the study and in the sale-room. J. E. L.

SPORTING PRINTS

TWO interesting sets of sporting prints have recently been reprinted. The first, Edward Orme's *British Field Sports*, consisting of twenty lithographs by Samuel Howitt, has been long prized by collectors—a set fetched more than £1,000 in New York in 1923—and this is only the second edition. There are many gaps in our knowledge of Howitt. He was born about 1760 and spent the first half of his life at Chigwell in Essex, but who his parents were, who taught him, and who left him his small fortune we have little or no evidence to show. We do know, however, that he first exhibited at the Academy in his middle twenties, that he became the brother-in-law of Rowlandson, who no doubt helped him, and that he soon squandered his independence in gay living. For a time he taught drawing in Dr. Goodenough's Academy in Ealing, then we find him living at Richmond in Yorkshire, and early in the 19th century he returned to London, where he died in 1822.

A Touch of Genius

Aquatint was his favourite and most successful medium—he worked little in oils—but judged by the standards of to-day he had surprising limitations. He could never be trusted to put a head on a horse, his sportsmen are as goo-goo-eyed as principal boys in a pantomime, and to judge from the foliage on his trees he seems to have believed that there was no close season for either fur or feather. But with all his faults he had a touch of genius; his feeling for composition was delightful, and so was his eye for colour. The wreath title-page of this particular set is a little masterpiece. The set, in an oblong folio 18 by 22 inches, is published by C. W. Trayler, 87, North-street, Guildford, in an edition limited to 1,000 copies at 10 guineas. A few bound copies are available at £16 10s, and a de luxe edition containing one of the original plates costs £136 10s. The standard of reproduction is extremely good.

The second set, *British Sporting Prints* (Ariel Press, 35s, limp, 48s bound) consists of twelve aquatints (8 x 12½ inches) by such familiar masters as Alken senior, the two Pollards, Barenger, Turner, and Stubbs (*Manbrino*), with a cover by Sir John Dean Paul. The book is edited by John Cadfryn-Roberts, who contributes brief biographies of each artist and an admirable general introduction. The fidelity of the reproduction is variable; one or two of the plates are too highly coloured and others are too flat. In view of the high cost of colour printing to-day, however, this set is well worth what the publishers ask for it.

The March issue of *Angling*, published by COUNTRY LIFE, price 1s. 6d., will be on sale to-morrow, and will include the following articles: *Renting a Rod*, by Coombe Richards; *Improving a Small Stream*, by Bernard Phayre; *Keep Your Flies on the Water*, by T. B. Butt; *Preserving the Salmon*, by Kenneth Dawson; and *Dealing With a Stranded Whale*, by L. K. Brightwell.



CABINET SECRETARY, BASED ON A DESIGN IN THOMAS CHIPPENDALE'S DIRECTOR. An illustration from the revised edition of *Georgian Cabinet-Makers*, reviewed on this page

two "ghost" draughtsmen, Lock and Copland, and that Copland alone was responsible for the majority of the *Director* designs, while Lock was employed "to make sketches of any other items of carver's work commissioned for execution on behalf of clients." Mr. Edwards now writes: "a further examination of the Lock and the Chippendale" drawings in the Victoria and Albert Museum has persuaded me that the views advanced in *The Creators of the Chippendale Style* as to the genesis of the *Director* designs may need some qualification."

It is pointed out that Mr. Kimball's theory is in fact based on rather doubtful premises and the deductions made by even more doubtful methods. Basically, he proved Copland's authorship of the *Director* plates by a comparison with the plates in Copland's only solo work, *A New Book of*

this footnote rightly questions the exclusion of Chippendale from any part in the *Director*'s authorship. Chippendale himself, on more than one occasion, both publicly and privately, claimed to be a practising draughtsman. This whole question is a fascinating one. One might almost call it the "did Banquo know?" problem of the furniture world, and as it stands at the moment, it is not likely to receive a final and definite answer unless, by some unforeseen chance, new evidence is discovered.

Reliable evidence, and in particular any information about the lives and personalities of these Georgian cabinet-makers, is for the most part scanty. There are but handful of facts known about Chippendale's own life, and his career is, compared with that of his contemporaries, well documented. It is a tribute to the

WINNERS AT CRUFT'S

By S. M. LAMPSON

A CYNICAL, non-dog-owning visitor to Cruft's Dog Show at Olympia maintained that the coveted award of Best in Show was certain to go to a representative of one of the popular breeds. The argument, which widened to include the ethics of dog showing, commercialism and various other points, left the stranger unconvinced, despite the facts proved by recent canine history, while I wondered whether the ordinary visitor to Cruft's realises how fine is the eye of the needle through which a dog has to pass before he can gain an award that will make him famous in every country of the world where pedigree dogs are appreciated.

In the breed classes the dog and bitch which in the judge's opinion are the best present and have beaten all others of their kind and sex are matched against each other for the title of Best of Breed. At the end of the first day of the show, when the hound, terrier and toy breeds have been on exhibition, it is these Best of Breeds that come in front of a panel of yet another three judges for further elimination. On the second day, when the gun-dogs and non-sporting breeds make their appearance, the same process is gone through and another three judges make their selection. After this the victors of both days are examined and assessed yet again by two further judges. Under such a searching examination from so many experienced judges a dog has to have more than a little something extra to win their approval.

This year the best dog at Cruft's was the greyhound Treetops Golden Falcon, jointly bred and owned by Mrs. de Casembroot and Miss Greenish. However popular the greyhound may be on the racing track or as a coursing dog, his popularity stands very low as a show or companion dog and has been on the down grade for several years, so there can be no suggestion of a favourite's winning here. Mrs. de Casembroot has had a famous kennel of cocker spaniels for many years; that she and her partner should achieve this most coveted of all awards with a breed that they have comparatively recently added to their interests proves that someone with a flair for breeding good stock will be successful whether their animals are almost valueless white mice or blood stock of the highest worth. How pleasing it was to see the affection and congratulations that were showered on the dog by his excited owners in the moment of his triumph and before they, themselves, received the congratulations of the crowd—a delightful and human touch that belies the belief that dogs are valued only commercially.

The little wire-haired terrier Ch. Caradoc-house Spruce, owned and bred by Mr. P. H.



BEST IN SHOW AT CRUFT'S: THE GREYHOUND TREETOPS GOLDEN FALCON, OWNED JOINTLY BY MRS. W. DE CASEMBROOT AND MISS H. GREENISH

Copley and handled by Mr. E. Sharpe, has been a familiar and sometimes successful figure in the Best in Show ring at several major shows during the past year. Although placed second on this occasion, he has added considerably to his honours.

The ordeal in the big ring at Cruft's is a long one and a strain on both exhibitor and exhibit, and demands of the dog physical fitness and great personality, in addition to physical beauty. That the two dogs who were Best and Reserve Best in Show on the first day should maintain their positions on the second is unusual and speaks highly for them, but praise is also due to the Keeshond bitch who won the award for Best in Show on the second day and stood third in the final line-up. Ch. Volkrijk of Vorden (known more pronouncedly as Panda when at home) is owned and bred by Mrs. I. M. Tucker and created a record for her breed by being the first ever to gain such a position at Cruft's. Ch. Volkrijk's win is noteworthy since

the Vorden kennel is a small one and seldom consists of more than half a dozen adult dogs. Some of these are Scottish deerhounds, all of them are winners of challenge certificates and the majority have their full title.

The bullmastiff Ch. Ambassador of Button-oak, who stood fourth on the last day of Cruft's, was yet another unusual breed to see in the final line up. For the second year in succession a gun-dog breed was not represented in the final four dogs selected, but Mr. D. P. B. Campbell's English springer spaniel Inveruel Rander stayed the course until the final elimination and thus becomes the winner of the COUNTRY LIFE cup for the best gun-dog.

So much for the argument that the most popular breeds would win the laurels; only the wire-haired terrier represented a breed that was in the top ten of the most recent registration figures, although in fairness, one must admit that neither the alsatians nor the miniature poodles had been judged in time to take part.

A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

By EILUNED LEWIS

"THREE hundred and sixty four days when you might get un-birthday presents, and only one for birthdays presents. There's glory for you," said Humpty Dumpty to Alice.

Glory seemed the very word, I thought, when on one of the bleakest days of 1956 I attended the eighty-fifth birthday of a serene and vigorous artist friend. Recently she has moved her studio, and is still busy settling into her new quarters where she is hard at work on a portrait. When, as often happens, she makes her way to carry out a commission in someone else's house, she despises the services of a taxi-cab and sets off with bag, canvas and easel for a cross-country journey by train and omnibus. A few years ago such independence at her age would have been considered extraordinary, but nowadays ninety might almost be called the fashionable time of life, and I have before me a letter from another old friend saying, "I still walk about with pleasure when the weather is favourable. Sight and hearing are good. I read and write a good deal without strain. And my health has been better than usual lately. So I find life pleasant and happy."

The writer had just reached his ninetieth

anniversary, and really I begin to think that the celebration of these events is as much fun for the very old as for the very young. Candles and crackers and games of hide-and-seek were all part of those early birthdays; then comes a long stretch of country when perhaps we are not so keen on counting the milestones. But towards the end of the journey something exciting and mysterious steals into the atmosphere once more. They may have outrun their candles, these seasoned travellers, but other lights shine for them, and sometimes we catch the reflection in their faces. Certainly it was there, clear and almost dazzling, on that eighty-fifth birthday of which I am thinking now, and at the end of it all I came away not only the richer for the day's memory but carrying an un-birthday present—the legacy of a tea-service which my friend wished to give me there and then. It is an old Welsh service, bright with the lustre which all Welshwomen relish, and it came long ago from a valley of which I often heard talk when I was a child, for the place figured as the background of many romantic stories in my confused memories. Here were whirling figures in a dance in strange conjunction with a group of men outside in the snow, their faces

darkened, singing like angels, and all of it bearsay. But since the giver of the tea-service is an Irishwoman, there is another strand of recollection, the vivid personal one of an island holiday long ago off the coast of Mayo. So that when I drink from my cups—which vary in size in the most individual way—I remember the western ocean and the cloud-shadowed hills, the stately women in their red skirts and black shawls, the soft voices and the witty tongues.

* * *

HOW much happiness a few china cups can evoke! These which are now mine will conjure up yet one more picture, and this the best of all, of the giver still working vigorously at her art next door to one of the most poetical of all gardens, where one morning "on a grass plot under a plum-tree" Keats wrote his ode to a nightingale. The house still stands "among the leaves," the same roof which sheltered him.

Here, where men sit and hear each other groan,

Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last grey hairs,

Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin,

and dies;

Where but to think is to be full of sorrow . . .

Keats was twenty-four years of age when he

wrote that, but my young hearted friends of eighty-five and ninety feel otherwise.

WE have come back to live for a few months in an old house in a London square, and I am more than ever persuaded that houses have personalities of their own. This one is friendly, but it is very definitely an autocrat. "If you live in me you must give me your whole attention," it seems to say. It is a tall house compared with country standards, and I have just come across a book (needless to say, written by a man) which advocates tall houses on the grounds that they assure a philosophic detachment. "Problems may be contemplated at one remove—especially when the telephone is three flights down." He does not mention who answers the telephone, but continues, "Women complain of the stairs. Women are seldom philosophers. And convention in London forbids our copying the sensible Continental habit of doing all our business with the outer world by letting down baskets."

That is all very well, but it is not the things which could arrive in baskets which devour our

time. St. Paul, it is true, used this method to escape from Damascus; but no plumber, carpenter, upholsterer or electrician that I have ever met enters or leaves that way. They have to be called on, wooed, cajoled, invited in by the front door and given cups of tea to keep them happy. During the first week after our return, even the front door bell did not work, so that he who was at last persuaded to call and mend it failed to make his presence known, and vanished for a further space of days. Philosophy was certainly needed that time.

ALL the same, I know that I am really happier living in this sort of house than in a flat filled with modern mechanical devices over which I should assuredly have no control. The carpenter who comes to make our windows to open and our doors to shut, and to mend and ease the panels of the shutters, is a gentle, civilised young man, full of patience and inherited skill. He and his father work in a dark room open to a mews, which is a very hospital for invalided furniture; so over-full of frail rosewood chairs which have "gone in the back," mahogany tables minus a leg, and

cane-bottomed chairs which have been "sat through" that some of them appear, like outpatients, to be waiting their turn in the street.

Opposite, across the cobbled mews, stands the smithy, where the iron gates which so many people have begun to want again are wrought. When I walk that way to do my shopping I find myself soothed and restored by the sight of the carpenter and the ringing sound of the blacksmith's forge, just as in the country it is good to see a man ploughing or harrowing a field, or intent on mending a hedge.

The carpenter who fashioned the little baluster rail in our house in the year 1810 was a craftsman too. With many changes of angle and elegant curves it snakes its way from hall to topmost landing, and the man who made it received probably less than a pound a week. The smooth feel of the mahogany is pleasant in the hand as one ascends (although I am not so sure about that philosophic detachment), while from the window of each floor in turn there is a better view of the budding almond-tree at the gate, of the branches of the horse chestnut where a blackbird perches, and the garden where we and the dachshund can dig.

A TRIPLE BILL

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

VARIOUS things have been happening in the golfing world, of which I have been reading in my bed or, by singular favour of the doctor, sitting in a dressing gown by the fire. Even though it may make rather a mixed bag of this article I must say a word or two about several of them. And first of all I suppose must come the Canada Cup, the creation of Mr. John Jay Hopkins, which is to be played at Wentworth on June 25 and 26. This, as most golfers know by now, is a 72-hole stroke competition in which each country is represented by two players and the winners are the pair which do the best aggregate score. Last year six-and-twenty nations were represented, and this year invitations have been sent to Formosa and Russia as well. I can scarcely hope that we shall see Mr. P. G. Wodehouse's delightful friend (in *The Clicking of Cuthbert*) whose favourite club was the "niblitski", but anyhow 26 will not be bad.

It is perhaps rather a scurvy and ungracious reason for welcoming yet one more tournament, but I think of this one primarily as ensuring a more than ever cosmopolitan field for the Open Championship, which follows almost immediately afterwards. If all these champions of all the countries go on from Surrey to Cheshire, as I imagine they will, this will be something like a championship, full of desperate thrills, nor can there be a better battlefield in all the world than this great course of Hoylake. As to the Canada Cup itself, I have no doubt it will be very exciting for onlookers who have enough patience. I have perhaps something of a bee in my aged bonnet on this subject, but I have suffered terrible things in watching four-ball matches between the most eminent professionals. They take such a long time in surveying the surrounding scenery before making a stroke. It has been all I could do to refrain from shouting, as Mr. Bob Sawyer did to the old lady, "Oh, devil take the laburnum-tree. Get on a little faster, put a little more steam on, pray."

If these possibly unreasonable sentiments could be provoked by four-ball matches, they will *a fortiori* be intensified by four balls of score play in which every putt must naturally be holed out. It may be that I shall have to eat my words and shall be as excited as anyone, but just at the moment I do not like the thought of having to look at the hedges to see that the golfers are moving. In any case I am very sure that it does not matter in the least what I think or say, because this tournament will draw the golfing onlooker to Wentworth in his thousands, of that I feel sure.

Now I turn for a moment to something of more limited and domestic interest—the fact that Southfield, the Oxford golf course, is saved as a "lung" to the city and will not be built upon, but will be, as I gather, taken over as a

golf-course by the municipal authorities. I have been to Southfield nearly every year, first as a player and since as a spectator for the match between the University and the Society and I imagine that I have seen my last, since under the new regime the University will probably play its matches elsewhere. Glad as I am that the course is saved, I cannot help feeling a little sad at parting from an old friend. I saw the course from its very beginnings when the late John Barrington-Ward, then the great supporter of University Golf among the dons, asked me to come down and see it. I always used to tell him afterwards that he had "salted" the course, after the manner of mining prospectors, for my benefit, since I was shown a small patch of sand which was never seen again. Southfield is not sandy; it can be on occasions a little muddy and its surroundings, which have grown ever more urban, may now and again cast a gentle melancholy. Yet I do not think that those who habitually play there always do it justice.

* * *

It has a number of decided merits and I have always regarded its design by the late Harry Colt as one of the best things he ever did. Of course he laid out many better courses, but that was out of such incomparably better material. At Southfield he had something rather like a sow's ear and he really did make a purse out of it. He used the rise and fall of the ground, which is in places almost picturesque, to the greatest advantage and there are some truly engaging holes, especially on the way home. I am a little dim over my numbers, but I like the

A BOY REMEMBERS

*Do you remember the lake
And the little boat sailing
Over the wind-ruffled water,
While we stood
Breathless upon the bank,
By the iron railing
Watching the trim white sails
And the painted wood
Skin like a bird
On that lovely summer morning
By the park lake? It was so long ago
Perhaps you've forgotten,
But I shall always remember
The blue of your jersey;
Your eager face aglow
With excitement, enchantment
I shall always remember
Two small boys
And the boat, and the wind blowing free
Through the park trees,
And the feel of your hand on my shoulder,
They will be part of me
Through eternity!*

AILEEN E. PASSMORE.

carry across the valley and over the out-of-bounds territory (is it the 13th?), where one is tempted to cut off just a little bigger chunk than one can chew. Sixteen, where I have often waited for the couples to come to me, has an excellent approach to a narrow green. I can still see—nay, I can almost feel it—a certain pitch to that green played from below by Roger Wethered, which seemed to make the ball hum in the air like a top and come spinning back to the flag. The 17th is a frightening little short hole. It may not be the perfect place for a short hole, but it is at any rate the right place for a fright and I have watched a good many terrified shots there. Altogether if I have said my last good-bye to Southfield I am quite sorry for it.

* * *

Lastly I come to another old friend, Sheridan, the caddie-master at Sunningdale. Though I am a little late in the day I should like to congratulate him on his new and well-earned dignity as an honorary member of the club. I have never belonged to Sunningdale, but I used to play there in its very earliest days; and I hope Sheridan will let me call him an old friend. Professionals have comparatively often in modern times been made honorary members of the clubs they have served well and long, but I have never heard of that other most valuable club servant, the caddie master, being so honoured. Sheridan is of course, if I may respectfully say so, a "character." That is a term hard to define but not so difficult to understand. Those to whom it is applied are generally brusque externally and very kind internally. They can appear now and again a little outrageous; they may "make their own rules and regulations," as Sheridan is said to have remarked of himself; but they must also have an essential wisdom and a very considerable gift of diplomacy. They have always a notion when to go and when to stop; they are skilful in driving a nail where it will go and not where it won't. Add to these gifts a resolute determination, a ready tongue and a friendly spirit, and you have at least some of the essential elements.

To think of characters in this sense must be, to many of an elder generation, to think of another golf-club official, a secretary, who had all the qualities I have tried to enumerate in generous measure. That was the beloved Jane, Harold Janion, the secretary at Hoylake. He could be unquestionably brusque; his comments on a committee sometimes consisted almost wholly of one impolite monosyllable; he could shoo you out of his room, if he were busy, with the minimum of ceremony. But he had the underlying diplomacy and the underlying kindness that always kept him from overdoing any of his pleasant little outrages. And that is where in these cases something very like genius comes in.

CORRESPONDENCE

ATOMIC STATION IN ESSEX

SIR.—Mr. Geoffrey Grigson's article *Where England Begins* conveys admirably the spirit and feel of this relatively unspoiled corner of Essex (February 2). As you note, Sir, it is proposed to build an atomic power-station here. It is necessary to develop this alternative source of electricity to meet an increasing demand and to compensate for a lessening supply of coal in the future. But it is surely also in the national interest that some few sanctuaries of nature and antiquity should be preserved.

Bradwell people are not seriously perturbed by any physical risk attaching to such an installation. We are



A SPANIEL TAKING A BATH IN A CATTLE TROUGH

See letter, "Dogs' Bath Technique"

assured that it will be "inherently safe." We are also, however, told officially that the policy of building these power stations away from large towns has been adopted "out of deference to public opinion," that is to say, to urban public opinion. After a few have been built in remote country places and urban public opinion has been educated to their acceptance, the policy may be revised. Meanwhile, the character of such stretches of coast as the Blackwater Estuary will have been changed irreparably.

There is still time to halt this project, so that the site of the power-station may be reconsidered. There seems to be no reason why it should not be built, if not in the centre of a large town, at least on one of the many stretches of coast which have already been spoiled by haphazard development. The final decision rests with the Minister of Fuel and Power; many people are hoping that he will not simply acquiesce in a proposal made by the Central Electricity Authority on technical grounds, but will show himself aware of the values indicated so eloquently by Mr. Grigson. TOM DRIEBERG, Bradwell Lodge, Bradwell-juxta-Mare, Southminster, Essex.

DOGS' BATH TECHNIQUE

SIR.—Like Boo Quennell I am a reader of COUNTRY LIFE and was much interested in her letter (January 26) about her washing procedure. I dislike being washed intensely. I am a large black spaniel—but I do give myself a mud bath frequently, preferably where the cows have been. I like to lie down and wallow really most relaxing. I can assure you, I also like to take a bath in the cattle troughs; in these I can really submerge completely, and then spring out dripping and frighten some unsuspecting cow; it is a very good aquatic sport. I enclose a photograph of myself in one of these troughs.

I do wash, also, in the same manner as Boo describes, but for some unknown reason my family thinks it is noisy and irritating. SETHY METHUEN, The Tey House, Corsham, Wiltshire.

SIR.—In answer to Boo's interesting letter about her ablutions, I would tentatively suggest that her uncertain ancestry on the wrong side of the straw may include bull-terrier. I myself am a pure-bred coloured bull-terrier, and I not only wash myself in the manner she describes, but give my dam a thorough washing from head to tail, paying particular attention to her eyes and ears. I also have access to our cat, who lives in the kitchen and, being half Persian, has some difficulty with his own toilet, so I always put in the finishing touches and lick him gently down his back and head.

I would gladly wash my mistress as well, but she seems to have some objection to natural cleanliness, so in my idle moments I turn my attention to shampooing the carpets. CORIOLANUS NIGHTRIDER CHAMBERLAIN, Heathfield, Sussex.

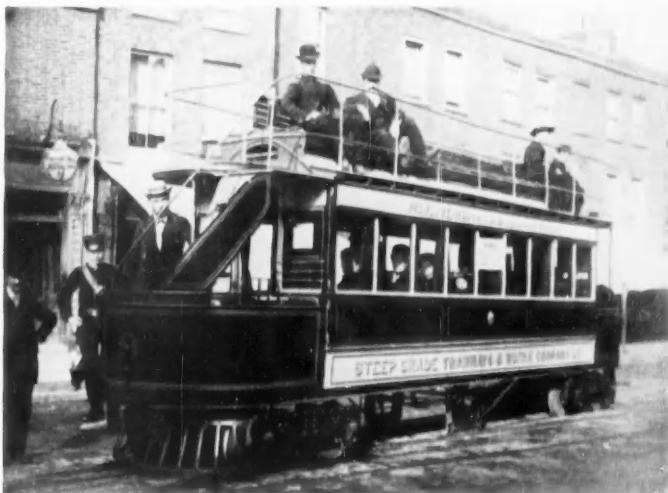
We have received many letters on this subject, but as the number of canine readers of COUNTRY LIFE must be comparatively small we regret that the correspondence must now be closed. ED.]

FIRST MECHANICAL TRAM?

SIR.—There is a good deal of interest in early mechanical transport and I feel that some of your readers might appreciate the enclosed photograph. I think it likely that it displays the veritable No. 1 vehicle in the long line of London's mechanical vehicles. It dates from 1884, in which year this Highgate cable tram was inaugurated, presumably before the introduction of any electric trams elsewhere in the Metropolis. The young conductor might also have claimed to be No. 1 of the mechanical conductors, for his cap badge bears the legend "S.G.T. 1." From the tariff bill on the window it seems that prospective customers were invited to make the down-hill trip to Archway Tavern for 1d. while the fare up-hill to Highgate was 2d. WAYFARER, Lancing, Sussex.

ACROSS THE RIVER CHERWELL

SIR.—Apropos of the recent letters about packhorse bridges, the enclosed illustration from Baker's *History and Antiquities of the County of Northampton* (1822) may be of interest. The subject is the "ancient stone horse



CABLE TRAM AT HIGHGATE, PHOTOGRAPHED IN 1884, THE YEAR OF ITS INAUGURATION

See letter, "First Mechanical Tram"

bridge" at Charwelton, which seems to be exceptionally small to have a substantial cutwater-cum-recess. Doubtless many readers will know how it appears at present, though this part of the Cherwell is not so familiar as the river's Oxford reaches. Baker states that the Cherwell rises about a mile north-west of this bridge in a spring or well in the cellar of Cherwell House. J. D. U. WARD, Rodhursh, Watchet, Somerset.

ANIMALS BEARING BELLS

SIR.—In his article of February 2 Mr. Ward remarks on the scarcity of mention in literature of animals bearing bells. Two instances occur, but both are metaphorical. On the memorial tablet to Tallis, the Tudor composer, in Greenwell parish church, is a piece of verse which says "Long tyme in Musick he did bear ve bell," comparing him to the leader of a flock.

But Gilbert's line in *The Comedians*—"with her elegant high-society talk, shell bear away the bell"—alludes to the old custom of giving bells as racing prizes, just as we give cups to-day. C. A. KNAPP (Captain), Bournemouth, Hampshire.

TRAFFIC ON THE STORT

SIR.—With reference to Mr. Moody's letter in your issue of January 5, there would be more traffic on the River Stort, in Hertfordshire, if it had not for several years been virtually impossible to navigate it in a powered craft, owing to the failure of the British Transport Commission to cut the weeds.

The new town of Harlow stands on the Stort, which links it, via the River Lea, with the London Docks, but under the present dispensation no traffic whatever goes to Harlow by water, although the wide locks on the Lea and Stort were modernised only about thirty years ago, and it is believed that no attempt has been made to attract such traffic. For the pleasure boatman the Stort may well be thought the most beautiful waterway in the Home Counties and a potential amenity of the greatest value to the rapidly increasing population in the district it traverses. The difficulty is that all the locks are closed on Sundays, so that the pleasure boatman also is hardly encouraged.

Finally, it should not be supposed that if the navigation is



ENGRAVING OF A PACKHORSE BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER CHERWELL AT CHARWELTON, FROM BAKER'S HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON (1822)

See letter, "Across the River Cherwell"



SLAVE RING OF ABOUT 1720 FOR A MAN AND (right) PIERCED RING OF ABOUT 1750 FOR A WOMAN
See letter: Relics of Slavery

abandoned the towpath will continue "to provide one of the most delightful walks within easy reach of London." The charm of this and other waterways is intimately connected with their navigation functions. The Stort, in fact, presents a perfect argument for the National Waterways Conservancy advocated by this Association, a newly constituted authority, similar to the Thames Conservancy, and dealing with all the aspects and potentialities of the waterways in the modern world. ROBERT ACKMAN, Founder and Vice-president, Inland Waterways Association, 11, Gower-street, W.C.1.

WILD LIFE IN A WINDSOR GARDEN

SIR.—My gardener's boy has now ceased his schooling and has started his apprenticeship in Slough. This change has necessitated his giving up his large collection of goldfish, and his father advised him to put them in the small round pond behind Burfield cottage. Alas, they have now all gone, as a marauding heron espyed this delicious food, pounced down and apparently has consumed the whole lot. I was also told recently that a pair of magpies stood by looking on, doubtless wondering whether there was anything to be had more suitable to their appetite.

Here in this garden we have a remarkable variety of bird and animal life. There is always a collection of pheasants, and a covey of partridges were on the lawn a short time ago. And I must not forget the pair of badgers in the most secluded part of the garden, although I do not want to remember too much of the fox's visit last winter. A green woodpecker is

very much attached to the surroundings. Being so near London, I find it a great delight to live among such attractive bird and animal life. T. CANNON BROOKES, Burfield Lodge, Old Windsor, Berkshire.

RELICS OF SLAVERY

SIR.—A correspondent has already, I think, pointed out that the largest of the collars illustrated in your issue of December 29, 1955, was a horse or cattle collar indicating that the owner had grazing rights on the common. If an animal found grazing on the common had no collar it was put in the pound and the owner had to pay a fine before it was released.

No one, however, seems to have written to tell you that the smaller rings were for slaves. In the early 18th century it was fashionable to have black girls and boys as servants in large houses. I enclose photographs of two slave rings in my possession.—J. F. PARKER, Tickenhill, Bewdley, Worcestershire.

PAINTER OF ANGLING SUBJECTS

SIR.—With reference to the letter from W. Benson Hutton, of Heathfield, Bideford, and your reply published in COUNTRY LIFE of January 26, I may be able to throw some light upon the painter J. Roland Knight.

I am the owner of an oil painting about 18 ins by 12 ins of a fine trout breaking the water in pursuit of a minnow, and the picture has been described as excellent by several knowledgeable people. On the back of the canvas it is described as "The Monster of the Thames" with the signature of A. Roland Knight. The initial letter might well be J, however.

The picture was given to me several years ago by an old friend who told me that it was commissioned and presented to him as a gift on his returning from the Presidency of the Fly-fishers' Society, and the

date given on the picture is July/91. The figure "99" is an unusual shape, which may account also for a seeming discrepancy of J as quoted by Mr. W. Benson Hutton and the A quoted by me as being the first initial of Roland Knight. I think you will agree that this information rules out the possibility of the pictures' being the work of A. Rowland Knight (1810-1840)—W. E. K. BRYANT, Southernhay, Wroxham, Norfolk.

DEVON CRAFTSMEN

SIR.—I was interested to see Mr. P. L. de W. Reade's letter about the use of straw and reeds as laths for plaster ceilings in Devon. You may care to reproduce the enclosed photograph, which shows the work of a local plasterer using the materials that he describes. This ceiling is at Ford Farm, Dunsford, Devon. It is interesting to see how the Classical lay-out has lent itself to native interpretation. The oak and thistle motif suggests an early 18th-century date.

On the other hand, in the same room is a contemporary Dutch oil painting forming an overmantel, demonstrating perhaps the owner's allegiance to both William of Orange and his Stuart Queen. The flat rural scene, with windmill, gabled houses, and wide expanse of water and sky, is essentially Dutch. It would be interesting to know the origin of this ceiling as well as the name of the village depicted in the overmantel. Both are extraordinarily pleasing in the simplicity of their setting.—CECIL FRENCH, Whilton, Devon.

AN OLD SYMBOL REVIVED

SIR.—Apropos of your recent correspondence about the reversed 4, this figure was a most common part, although it frequently occurs at the left "leg," of a mediaeval merchant's mark. I have examined some 200-300 original charters and manuscripts of the 14th and 15th century in my collections here, which exhibit this symbol as part of the mark. Curiously enough, and a point which I had not

noticed before, the occurrence of the symbol in reverse (5 to 1) is much greater in the 14th and 15th century than on merchants' bills of lading in the 18th century, when the number of reversed and proper 4s is almost equal.—H. L. BRADFER-LAWRENCE, Sharrow End, Ripon, Yorkshire.

HORSES WITH FOUR WHITE LEGS

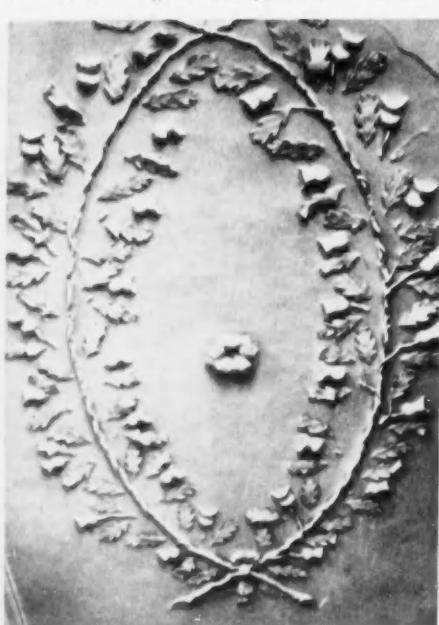
SIR.—While admitting that there are a large number of people who dislike a horse with four white legs, or indeed any horse with a lot of white about him, I think the statement in *Farming Notes* of January 26 that horses "with four white legs are anathema" should be somewhat qualified. There are a number of people, myself included, who have either known or bred very good horses with white legs; and it should, I thank, be remembered that Hyperion, the best racehorse and sire of the past thirty years, has four white legs. I think if any stock of his should have his four white feet or legs it would not be anathema to the owners.—H. G. SOMERS, Bank End Mill, Hesket Newmarket, Wigton, Cumberland.

HUNTING EUROPEAN BROWN BEAR

SIR.—Having read with interest H. Mortimer Batten's account of the grizzly bear (*U. horribilis*) in Canada (December 29, 1955), I wondered if your readers might care to consider the European brown bear (*U. arctos*), which is still found in Sweden and Norway, but more commonly in the forest wildernesses of Finland and Russia. The Finnish bear is the Russian bear, and he moves unhesitatingly across that silent frontier, now eastward into Venäjä, now westward into Suomi, the king of a boundless and unchanging wilderness.

This bear provides a splendid form of sport. In Finland, during February and March, the snow takes a hard crust, and if a bear awakens he may leave the den where he has lain all the winter and go shambling through the forest. The strongest and ablest hunters, using skis and carrying rifles, if lucky enough to find such an early bear, will pursue him for many hours and many miles. Much honour attaches to this *karkkunaja* among the true backwoodsmen—*craniacum*.

More often a bear is found by the dogs of a hunting expedition, forced out of his snowy den and dispatched with shotguns. However, no one wishes to exterminate this fine animal. The Government no longer offers a bounty of 6,000 marks (about £10) a head, bearskin fetch a low price, being used only for sleigh rugs, hallways and wall decorations; and above all, bears are much scarcer than they used to be. From 1939 to 1942 the number taken averaged only fifty a year. Some giants have been



EARLY-18TH-CENTURY PLASTER CEILING AND CONTEMPORARY OVERMANTEL PAINTING, PROBABLY OF DUTCH ORIGIN, AT FORD FARM, DUNSFORD, DEVON
See letter: Devon Craftsmen

recorded, notably one weighing almost 750 lb, shot by Ignat Voranen at Hiltola, in Karelia, before the wars. Next comes the 600 lb. bear of Vaala, shot on a lake-isle in 1954, and after that, Feodor Maksimainen's 500 lb. bear from the Karelian border. Usually, however, a Finnish bear weighs from 260 to 330 lb.

The Finnish school reader *Our Land* tells of Martti Kitunen, greatest of hunters, who died in 1833 aged 86, having killed 198 full-grown bears and more cubs than he could remember. In those days Finland was a poor and perhaps backward dependency of Russia; modern Finns must not be thought of as grouped round a camp fire, honouring the dead bear with a boisterous wake, calling him gold and silver of the forest. Yet people still call him *mesikammen*, honeypaws,



TWO STAFFORDSHIRE SPANIELS

See letter, A Royal Spaniel

and concede to him alone of all animals the personal pronoun.

Sportsmen from other, more built-up lands, attracted by the chance of an uncommon trophy, can engage the services of a hunter, a *metsätaja*, to show them bears. Such an expedition may cost each member as much as £150. The number of bears to be found in Finland to day depends upon their unpredictable movements over the eastern frontier and upon what takes place behind it.

The Finns have as their national emblem a lion rampant, looking westward and treading upon a curved sword. I do not know if they ever considered adopting the bear, indeed, how could they? It already stood for Venaja, Russia. Yet the bear might have represented Finland more truly. It minds its own business and turns away from trouble, but when cornered it fights with all its rugged strength, usually against impossible odds.

GEORGE NEWBY, 48, Teviot Well-road, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

A ROYAL SPANIEL

SIR.—Miss S. M. Lampson's article of January 26 mentions the revival of the original type of Blenheim spaniel with his pointed nose and his "bright chestnut markings well broken up" over the body and "divided on the head to leave room for the much-prized 'lozenge mark' between the ears." So exactly is this a description of the Staffordshire spaniels so popular a hundred years ago in farm-house and cottage that I have photographed for you two that are in my own possession. The larger is 12 ins. high and the smaller 5½ ins. Both wear a golden padlock and chain. Can anyone tell me why? Poodles and greyhounds never do.

Though made as ornaments for the chimney-piece, my spaniels look well on a window-sill; our grandmothers often put their china dogs in the fanlight over the front door. Most

of them are very like mine; some are white with light gilding, some variously coloured, such as dark green with copper lustre. I have even seen these spaniels whimsically dressed in a flowered tricorn hat or carrying a basket of brightly coloured flowers in their mouths.—M. LITTLEDALE, 1, The Cross-roads, Southbourne, Bournemouth, Hampshire.

WHAT IS THE SCENE?

SIR.—For some years now, since acquiring a beautiful marine painting on the Continent, I have sought to identify the scene it represents, but without success. The artist was Henry Dawson and the painting was finished in 1853. The large ship of the line in the mid foreground is not, I believe, the *Victory*; it is three-tiered. The second largest ship visible is two-tiered, as are the remainder. At the right of the painting can be seen a gun-firing; this is evidently the sunset gun, as the ensign is still flying from the staff and the entire roadstead is peaceful. Indeed, all the large vessels are lying at anchor. A long boat pulls towards the spectator, evidently a liberty party going ashore, and the smaller rowboat in the foreground is crowded with civilians, evidently a coast fisherman and his family. A small boy hangs over the stern of this boat, playing with a toy boat of his own. This painting measures about five ft. by seven ft. I enclose a photograph of it in the hope that one of your readers may be able to identify the scene.—HORACE S. MAZET (Lt.-Col.), Box 37, Balboa Island, California, U.S.A.

FISHING FROM THE CLIFFS

SIR.—During a recent visit to Cape St. Vincent, in the extreme south-west corner of Portugal, I was interested to see that it was a common practice among the local inhabitants to fish from the edge of the cliffs, which are here about 200 feet or more in height. Although I did not see it used myself, I understand that when a large fish has been hooked, namely one that would be too heavy for his line to lift, the angler lets down a cone-shaped net attached to a stout cord and hauls it up by that means. The youth seen on the right in my photograph was just about to land a fish of between one and two pounds in weight.—COLLINGWOOD INGRAM, Benenden, Kent.

A CURE FOR SPRAINS AND BRUISES

SIR.—With reference to the letter from Mr. P. E. Speckmann in your issue of February 2, one ounce of bay salt, half a pint of vinegar and half a pint of rainwater was used as a lotion for sprains and bruises about a century ago, though whether it was any good or not I cannot say.—F. W. HERLY, Alford, Lincolnshire.

CONGREVE MATCHES

SIR.—May I comment on your reply to the letter from Mr. Eric Guy in *Collectors' Questions* of January 26?

The ebony container, decorated with ivory strips and brass studs, was made between 1860 and 1870. We have several specimens, both of match containers and string boxes, ornamented in the same manner. In addition to beehives, pillars and crowns were also popular forms.

It is correct that the box illustrated was intended for the Congreve match, which was probably named after Sir William Congreve's rocket. It was not invented by him, however,



A HARBOUR SCENE PAINTED BY HENRY DAWSON IN 1853

See letter, What is the Scene?

and was not on the market until 1832, four years after his death. The inventor is believed to have been Charles Saumarez, a French chemist. The developers were J. Siegel, an Austrian, and the German, J. C. Kammerer. The Congreve match remained in use until the 1870s.—EDWARD H. PINTO, Northwood, Middlesex.

THE MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY'S LEG

SIR.—With reference to the Marquess of Anglesey's comments (February 2) on my letter about the leg that his ancestor lost on the field of Waterloo, you may like to know that the sources of my information were *The Waterloo Roll Call* (2nd ed., 1904, p. 12) and an article from the Brussels correspondent of *The Times* published on February 22, 1839 (p. 17, col. 4)—T. G. SCOTT, 19, Granville-road, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.

JOSHUA MOLLINEUX, ARTIST

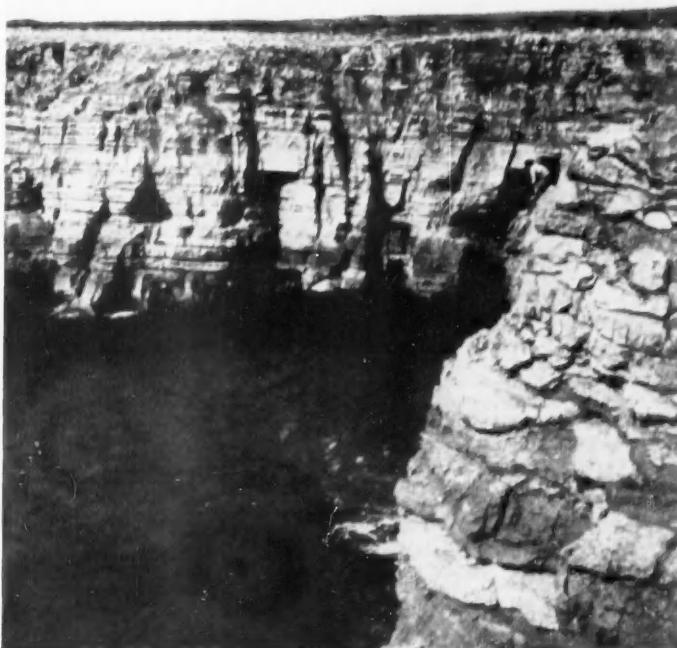
SIR.—I am searching for information of any kind about Joshua Mollineux, an artist of the 1710-1740 period. I have a copy of an engraving by H.

Hulbergh of a drawing by Mollineux of the Old Bluecoat School, Liverpool, which must have been executed between 1725 and 1727. The Prints Department of the British Museum has a large etching of a marine subject by Mollineux of about 1729, but no other information. His name does not appear in the usual reference books, and if any of your readers can supply any information of his life or of other works by him I shall be most grateful.

—STANLEY A. HARRIS, 167, Hooker Avenue, Liverpool, 18.

L.T. JOSEPH TAYLOR

SIR.—In going through the effects of my father I came across a miniature of about 1800-1820 of a young man and should be glad if you could help me to trace the descendants, who might like to have it back. There is a newspaper cutting in the back with these words: "In Camp near Poomah on 3rd March in consequence of the accidental explosion of gunpowder in the fort of Chackun. On the 25 February, Lieut. Joseph Taylor of the 2nd 17th or C.L.I." It goes on to say what a good officer he was.—W. STEVENSON, Delvine, Muirhly, Perthshire.



A PORTUGUESE YOUTH FISHING FROM THE CLIFFS OF CAPE ST. VINCENT

See letter, Fishing from the Cliffs

MOTORING NOTES

NEW ROAD SIGNS

By J. EASON GIBSON

TO the multiplicity of road signs which serve to confuse rather than guide the British motorist is being added a new one. Forty of these new signs, which admonish the motorist to "Yield Right of Way," are being erected experimentally at Slough, and will come into effect to-day. It is intended that this new sign will, in suitable places, be used instead of the existing "Slow" and "Halt" signs.

The effect of this new sign should be about half way between the two existing signs and, as it appears to leave some discretion to the individual motorist, should be welcomed. The existing "Halt" sign is often ignored when the driver can see perfectly clearly that the major road which he is entering is completely free of traffic. Similarly the "Slow" sign does allow a cautious motorist to enter a main road slowly—thus obeying the sign—but paying little or no

heed to the knowledge of English is less than perfect. Apart from the obvious excellence of these two pictorial signs, they would have served as the first step in an effort, which is long overdue, to obtain some degree of international standardisation in road signs. Any motorist with experience on the Continent will, I think, agree that it is much easier for a stranger to understand at once the signs used there than it is in Britain.

Testing Old Cars

Since the proposal was put forward that compulsory spot tests might be made of all cars over a certain age, I have heard from many dealers that the mechanical condition of some old cars is much more serious than is generally realised. This is revealed, they contend, by a practice of motorists, when they are trading in second-hand cars for slightly more youthful

deliberate neglect by motorists well able to pay the costs of routine maintenance. Motorists who cannot afford the increasing cost of maintaining their car have the obvious alternative of doing such work themselves, after having studied the subject seriously. There must be many motorists—I know that I was one—who were forced to scrimp and save and do all the work themselves when they bought the first car of their youth. Incidentally, what a lot of fun one had from that first carefully-nursed car, which in retrospect seems to have had so many more virtues than one's latest modern car!

Freeze-up Precautions

The two recent spells of severe weather, when the temperature was often below freezing point, underlined the lack of forethought of many motorists. On one occasion, when it was below freezing point throughout the day, I must have seen well over twenty cars on my way into London with their radiators boiling madly owing to the cold lower half of the radiator being frozen solid, and so preventing circulation of the coolant. In many cases, I have no doubt, the owner—having filled up with the correct amount of anti-freeze the previous winter—was unaware that he was running the risk of serious damage by neglecting to have the contents of his radiator checked with a hydrometer at the start of the winter. Needless to say, many large garages ran out of anti-freeze because of the sudden call on their supplies.

I saw many motorists trying to enter their cars in the evening before leaving London for home, and being foiled owing to the door lock's having frozen solid. Two whom I watched succeeded in thawing the lock with cigarette lighters. One whom I helped, the owner of a car with particular effective rubber door sealing, could not open the door even after it was unlocked, owing to condensation on the rubber seal having frozen. I agree there is little one can do to avoid that particular trouble, but freezing of the lock can be prevented by squirting a little neat anti-freeze into the lock, or working some gradually with the key.

A third trouble I noticed many suffering from was caused by a sudden frost after a light fall of snow, which effectively coated the wind screen with a film of hard ice. Safety demanded that some irritating minutes be spent in scraping this deposit off. This can be prevented by slipping either a newspaper or a piece of cardboard beneath the windscreen wiper or wipers, so that it protects the windscreen. It is no trouble to carry a suitably sized piece of board beneath the driving seat during the winter, so that one is prepared to take action should there be a spell of severe weather.

Dazzle in Reverse

New cars fitted with large searchlight-like rear lamps to please overseas buyers are coming on to the roads in increasing numbers, and are proving a menace to drivers following. The necessity for a bright rear light, in the interests of safety, cannot be denied, but some lights now fitted are needlessly glaring, and when the brake light and winking trafficator are added to the display it becomes difficult for any following driver to distinguish anything beyond the blaze of light. Following such cars can be just as trying as driving directly into the setting sun. Because these lights have probably been fitted in some cases to appeal to the American market, they tend to be fitted high up, in conformity with trans-Atlantic style, and it is almost impossible to dodge their glare, even by following a car in front very closely. The winking trafficator is perhaps the worst feature, because of its intermittency, which has the automatic effect of drawing attention to it. When the manufacturers themselves do nothing to diminish the glare from those of their cars which are sold in Great Britain, the owner himself could easily do a service to other road users by masking part of the lenses.



ONE OF THE NEW "YIELD" SIGNS AT A JUNCTION WITH THE MAIN ROAD AT SLOUGH. These signs are half-way between the "Halt" and "Slow" signs

attention to the proximity of fast moving traffic. There will undoubtedly be many problems in the early stages, and it is not difficult to imagine the heated argument regarding the precise point in time and space at which the driver is expected to yield, how near must the driver on the major road be to the junction for him to be certain that the driver on the side road will yield to right of way? The principal objection to this new sign will rightly be that it is one more sign thought up by those in authority, with the best intentions no doubt, which will differ from the signs recognised internationally.

In September the Ministry of Transport published a draft of regulations affecting traffic signs, and there was no hint of this drastic new sign. The Minister of Transport had the necessary powers to issue new signs, but one would have greater confidence if these powers were only used after consultation with the recognised motoring organisations. Conversely, two new and easily understood pictorial signs warning the road user of "Children" or "School" were included in the draft regulations, but there is no sign of their coming into use as yet. These two pictorial signs, because of their simplicity and similarity to signs already used on the Continent, would be easily and instantly understood by visiting motorists, whereas the "Yield" sign will confuse many foreign drivers—and perhaps

ones. The situation seems to be that there are many motorists in Britain running cars worth anything from £50 to £350 who cannot afford to carry out proper and regular maintenance and who, if faced with a heavy repair bill which they cannot meet, are forced to give their car in part payment for a slightly newer one. The dealer's trade-in price for their old car has to cover the 33½ per cent deposit for the new one, the balance being paid on hire purchase. One dealer of my acquaintance assures me that about half the cars which are offered to him in part payment are lacking brakes and have highly inaccurate steering. Before they can be sold again considerable work has to be done on them, and until that is done the dealer cannot obtain a profit on the transaction.

That seems to be only one side of the matter, as, while such cars are being run by the owner, they are a menace on the roads, and perhaps not all motor dealers are as thorough in checking the cars, before they are once again returned to the vicious circle. While one has every sympathy with people anxious to share in the pleasures of motoring, it cannot be right for old and unsound cars to be kept on the roads, and inability to meet inevitable service charges—without which a car cannot be kept in an efficient state—must, I feel, be treated by the authorities in exactly the same way as would



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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

CONCERNING CATNAPS

EVERY other day someone invents a new function for the S.O.S. redouble. Like other Contract conventions, it is subject to various misapplications which can cost a fortune, as demonstrated by two examples.

West	East
♦ K Q J 9 7 3	♦ 10 2
♦ K Q 10	♦ 7 6 5 3
♦ A 3	♦ 10 9 5
♦ Q 5	♦ K 8 3 2

Dealer, West. Both sides vulnerable.

West opened One Spade on a hand that was on the margin of a Two-bid; North passed, East passed, and South doubled. West redoubled in the hope that the opponents would treat him with respect and allow him to play peacefully for Two Spades. Three passes followed. A Heart was led, so One Spade redoubled was made with two overtricks for a score of 1470 on a part-score deal.

This was not, as you might think, a tragedy of crossed wires. Both North and South seemed convinced that East was asleep and had failed to respond to an "S.O.S. redouble." They fell into the common error of confusing the situation with the case where the bidding goes like this:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Double	No bid	No bid

South's pass means that One Spade has been doubled for penalties, and a redouble by West is now a cry for help. On the hand above West's redouble was not an S.O.S. signal; it merely showed a maximum One-bid. In other words, you do not start crying before you have been hurt, as West did on the next example:

West	East
♦ A 9 3	♦ Q 6 5 4 2
♦ Q 10 8	♦ 1 7 2
♦ A K 3	♦ 9 8 4
♦ K 8 4 3	♦ 7 2

Dealer, West. Neither side vulnerable.

West opened One Club because his side was playing the weak No Trump. After two passes South doubled; fearful of a penalty pass by North, West made what he thought was an S.O.S. redouble. East, unfortunately, made a pass that was correct in theory but calamitous in practice, for the opponents kept their heads and took a penalty of 1000 off One Club redoubled. Over the double West could have made the natural call on his hand, One No Trump, leaving it to East to rescue into a five-card suit that might provide a place of refuge.

The S.O.S. redouble applies only to low-level contracts. It would be a great pity if the good old-fashioned call, used in its natural sense, were denied to us when some hectic battle of suits has been carried to the Four or Five level. As I have remarked before, even hardened campaigners seem to duck instinctively at the sound of the portentous word, and someone or other, friend or foe, becomes *non compos mentis* before the deal is over. Here, for instance, is a tale of curiously-connected episodes. First act:

♦ 6 2	
♦ Q 7 3	
♦ A K Q J 9 8 5 2	
♦ ...	
♦ A J 8 5	♦ 10 9
♦ K 10	♦ A 9 8 4
♦ 10 7 4	♦ 3
♦ Q 9 7 3	♦ A K J 10 8 4
♦ K Q 7 4 3	
♦ J 6 5 2	
♦ 6 5 2	

Dealer, North. North-South vulnerable.

As West I was partnered in a duplicate pairs contest with a rising star named Albert Dormer. South was a wily old-stager and North a young woman whose mission was merely to look decorative. The bidding:

West	North	East	South
3 NT (2)	1 ♦	3 ♣	3 ♣ (1)
Redouble (3)	Double	No bid	No bid
Double	5 ♦	4 ♣ (4)	4 ♦ (5)
Double	No bid	Double	5 ♣ (6)

(1) South believes in bidding while he has the chance.

(2) The contest was drawing to a close, our score was a bad one and the time for normal measures was past.

(3) Psychological, based on South's guilty look as he bid Three Spades and air of distaste when his partner doubled Three No Trumps.

(4) As it happens, South is not put to the test (I still think he would have run!).

(5) South suddenly wakes up to what is going on. North, he reasons, would not dare to double the maestro on her right with fewer than 18 points. West's sole assets are a few Clubs; sooner than give himself away by retreating to Four Clubs, he resorts to a redouble which East recognises as an S.O.S. North must be protected against such antics, so the time has come for South to show his second suit.

(6) Why spoil the evening's record by allowing North to play a hand?

One feature of the auction rather puzzled me, but discussion was deferred, the post mortem being monopolised by South in an attempt to convince his partner that her double of Three No Trumps was a tactical error. Two days later I played with the same partner in a Crockford's Cup match. Second act:

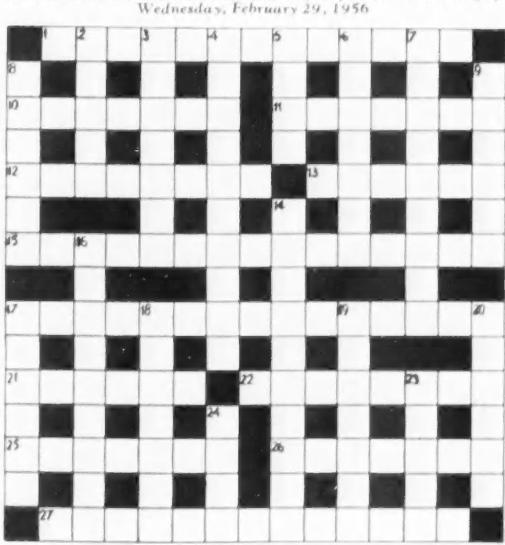
♦ A 9 8 7 5 4	♦ A J 10 9 8 5 4 2
♦ ...	♦ Q 7 6 2
♦ K J 9 5	♦ 10
♦ A J 8	♦ ...
♦ Q J 10 3	♦ K 6 2
♦ K 6	♦ Q 7 3
♦ 10 4 3	♦ A 8
♦ K 7 6 2	♦ Q 9 5 4 3

Dealer, East. North-South vulnerable.

I was again sitting West. The bidding was:

CROSSWORD No. 1359

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions in a closed envelope must reach "Crossword No. 1359, COUNTRY LIFE, 210, Fawcett Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 29, 1956.



Name... Address... Post town... County... Post office... M.R.P., M.R.R., T.T.C.J.

Address... Post town... County... Post office... M.R.P., M.R.R., T.T.C.J.

SOLUTION TO NO. 1358. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of February 16, will be announced next week.

ACROSS: 1. Carburetors; 9. Matchwood; 10. Viola; 11. Rosary; 12. Going off; 13. York; 14. Peat fire; 15. Canister; 16. Copter; 21. Audience; 23. Spades; 26. Lover; 27. Frightful; 28. Philosophers; DOWN: 1. Country; 2. Rates; 3. Unharmless; 4. Frost; 5. Ladpole; 6. Raven; 7. Snaffle; 8. Motorist; 11. Ringdove; 16. Troopship; 17. Merribell; 18. Charles; 20. Castles; 22. Earth; 24. Delor; 25. Kiss.

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

West	North	East	South
2 ♠ (2)	2 ♠	No bid	No bid
3 ♠	4 ♠ (3)	Double (4)	No bid
4 ♠	No bid	No bid	Double
Redouble (5)	No bid	5 ♠ (6)	Double
No bid	No bid	No bid	No bid

(1) Weak version—and a little weak at that,

(2) Conventional—very scientific.

(3) North finds "two more Aces".

(4) Attempt to still further enterprise by partner.

(5) This looks like a classical redoubling situation. West feels sure he can make Four Spades (he can, in fact, make Five). North is vulnerable and has already been doubled, so he is unlikely to bid Five Hearts; if he does, it should cost him 800.

(6) The rescue again comes from an unexpected quarter.

South led a Spade, ruffed by North, and my partner went one down. "Unlucky!" I said with commendable heartiness, followed by a roar of rage when I realised that I, West, had been the first to mention Clubs (North said he would have led a Diamond on the bidding, which makes a slight difference).

I had been puzzled by East's reproachful look as well as his lack of confidence, but it was only at the end of the session that light eventually dawned. "It wasn't so easy for me," he said. "On Friday in the pairs you made a redouble, and I was right then to take it out."

Well, it seems that the day of the honest redouble is dead. It also struck me that all of my favourite partners, from Simon onwards, have had the curious habit of making up for lost sleep at the Bridge table. Reft of Miss Shanahan, who is hibernating on the B.B.L. international panel, I have partnered young Dormer in several events, although there was something about his name that made me vaguely uneasy. And so it goes on—from Dormouse to Dormer.

ACROSS

- Pa escaped rain but not the smog apparently (13)
- And/or the artist in Southern Europe (7)
- Transmit but lose a lot in passage (7)
- Could be a paddock or an orner (8)
- Sort of fire dance (6)
- Just a misunderstanding (15)
- Got O.B.I., due to root mixture (3, 4, 2, 2, 4)
- The Hatter's concerned a raven (6)
- The devil take it! (8)
- He makes a vessel (7)
- "... thou wretch, That hast within thee undivided crimes" —Shakespeare (7)
- A kiddy shown as a tot (6, 3, 4)

DOWN

- Its coral strand (5)
- E.g. R 100 (7)
- Alter pâtre for an industry based on constant irritation (5, 5)
- Crafty anagram of 24 (4)
- "O Antony! O thou—bird!" —Shakespeare (7)
- He gets the stomach in a more comfortable position (9)
- The price of freedom (6)
- Such waters are sweet (6)
- Sling photo in the fire? (10)
- Armed marine animal (9)
- Fieldfare or redwing as well (6)
- The old boy pines for regular shapes (7)
- "He saw; but blotted with excess of light,
Closed his eyes in the night"—Gray (7)
- The dish of the privileged (6)
- "That — maiden, with white fire laden,
Whom mortals call the moon" —Shelley (5)
- It barked at King Lear (4)

NOTE: This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1357 is

Miss J. Shaw,
8, Stokelake road,
Harrogate,
Yorkshire.



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FARMING NOTES

FARM CAPITAL AND OUTPUT

I HAVE been reading with interest a small booklet entitled *Capital in United Kingdom Agriculture Present and Future*, by Stephen Cheveley and Owen Price, of the Central Agricultural Control of Imperial Chemical Industries. They begin by pointing out that in recent years agricultural subsidies have been almost as large as the total net farm income of all farms in the United Kingdom, which we shall all agree is unsatisfactory from every point of view. We shall all agree, too, no doubt that the best remedy is to reduce costs of production, and since farming has a high proportion of fixed costs, the most promising method of lowering costs on most farms, particularly on the smaller farms, is by raising output.

But in most cases this will involve additional capital, and the authors point out that, though the return on a tenant's capital on the larger farms is adequate, that on the smaller farms is generally insufficient to provide for a reasonable standard of living and allows nothing for additional investment. Indeed, they find that, taking the year 1951-52 and taking United Kingdom agriculture as a whole, no cash income was available for saving for future investment after meeting living costs and taxation. This suggests that any additional capital for further investment must come from increased farm income or from outside the industry. As regards the latter, the authors suggest the setting up of a central farm loan organisation to investigate and report on the practical and financial aspects of all loan applications, and the offering of loans for approved types of investment at rates slightly lower than the current market rates.

Stock and Buildings

THE whole argument is supported by figures which are convincing. There is no doubt that efficiency in farming could be increased, for there is plenty of room to improve the yields of all our arable crops as well as the productivity of our grass land. This would mean not only that more livestock could be kept, but also that our imports of animal feeding-stuffs could be reduced. But to do this undoubtedly requires additional capital, for such things as fertilisers, lime, grass seed, fencing and draining. I confess, however, that I have some doubts as to the increase in efficiency that would result from the investment of £400 million in improving the farm buildings of the United Kingdom. I cannot help feeling that the authors have attached too much importance to this. I have always been little sceptical as to the labour that could be saved by modernising farm buildings. I never feel certain that by saving a man two hours' work a day in tending stock one can enable some other department of the farm to gain two hours of his time, or what department. A lot has been written in the last few years about the replanning of farm premises, and all the emphasis has been on the saving of labour. But important though this is, to my mind it is not half so important as the comfort of the animals which occupy these premises. I was brought up to believe (and I still believe) that the efficiency of a farm can best be judged by the stock the buildings house rather than by the buildings themselves.

Cattle Lice

LICE are a common cause of unthriftness in housed cattle at this time of year, though more often I think they are the result of unthriftness and not its cause. It is certain that cattle which are not doing well are a prey to every sort of parasite, not least to ring-worm. I have had

cattle in a straw yard being wintered as stores, and being fed on rather a meagre ration, badly attacked by ring-worm, while fattening cattle in the next yard to them and divided only by an open fence remained perfectly free. Lice multiply very rapidly, and a slight infestation may soon become serious, but a good dusting with D.D.T. powder will quickly check the trouble. In the old days it was considered good practice to groom housed cattle fairly regularly, but I am afraid those days are gone. I have always found that cattle (and pigs as well) which are regularly littered with barley straw are very prone to lice infestation. I do not know quite what the explanation is, but I am quite sure that it is so. And it is no answer to say "Don't use barley straw for litter," for if the major proportion of the corn acreage is barley, as it is on so many of the light-land farms in the south and east, what is to be done? It is to be used at all, a great deal of it must be trodden as litter.

The House and the Land

IT seems that to-day the house and buildings to be found on a farm influence its selling price much more than they used to do. I suppose this is understandable. The cost of building is so high that few buyers can contemplate the expenditure required to repair and modernise an old set of farm buildings, and because of the increasing difficulty in getting domestic help farmers' wives are becoming more and more reluctant to move into big, wasteful and ill-arranged farm-houses. But be this as it may, the fact remains that the quality of the land of which the farm is composed is still infinitely more important. The best buildings in the world and the most modern farm houses will never compensate for poor land, for it is on the land that the money is made or lost. After all, it is possible to make bad buildings good, but though soil may perhaps be improved, it is not possible to change its inherent nature. It is unfortunate that so often in the south and east of England the best buildings are found on the farms with the worst land and the worst buildings are on those with the best.

Bulls for Crossing

I NEVER like to hear a bull described as a "crossing bull." Too often it means an inferior animal and one that is unlikely to get good stock however he is mated. Obviously if you are buying an Angus bull to run with a beef-breeding herd of Blue Grey Cows you won't go to Perth and pay a thousand guineas or more for one. Such a price for a top bull is justified only if he is to be used in a bull-breeding herd. But you can hardly expect to buy a good bull for the same price that you would pay for a teer, though that is what a good many people seem to expect to be able to do, and if you ask them why they don't buy a better animal they will answer "Well, I only want him for crossing." The fact is that the bull you use for crossing cannot be too good, though of course he may very well be different in some ways from the sort of bull which would be most suited for mating with cows of his own breed. In most breeds there is a good deal of variation in type, and the type of bull that is chosen will be governed by the type of cow to which he is to be mated. With the Aberdeen-Angus breed, for example, the old-fashioned big, rangy sort is much more likely to be suitable for crossing than the small, fine, neat bulls that to-day are in the majority. But whatever his type, let him be a good specimen of that type, even if he is only a "crossing bull."

XENOPHON



The Fastest T.T. of all time!
Stirling Moss comes home first in the R.A.C. International T.T. at Dundrod—with an average speed of 88.32 m.p.h. Well done, Stirling Moss and Mercedes!

Photograph by courtesy of "Motor Racing"

A YEAR OF VICTORIES FOR BP SUPER

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At Silverstone, at Dundrod in Ulster, at Oulton Park and Brands Hatch, at Kristianstad in Southern Sweden, the leading drivers of 1955 battled for victory in some of the world's most exacting races—and the cars that won were fuelled on BP Super.

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Photograph by courtesy of "The Autocar"

Brilliant driving by Wharton. With BP Super in the tank of his Ford Zephyr, Ken Wharton was placed first in the 2001 to 3000 c.c. class in the Production Touring Car Race at the Daily Express Trophy meeting at Silverstone.

Big wins in last year's big races have proved the worth of BP Super under the most testing conditions a motorist could encounter. You can see what they mean when they call BP Super "the petrol with more energy per gallon"!

Some of the big wins on BP Super during the 1955 season

Ulster T.T. 1st, Stirling Moss; 2nd and 3rd, J. M. Fangio and G. von Tripp. All driving Mercedes cars

Silverstone Production Touring Car Race 2001-3000 c.c. class 1st, Ken Wharton in a Ford Zephyr.

Tulip Rally 1st, W. J. J. Tak in a Mercedes.

British Empire Trophy 1st, W. A. Scott-Brown in a Lister-Bristol.

Swedish Grand Prix 1st, J. M. Fangio; 2nd, Stirling Moss. Both driving Mercedes cars

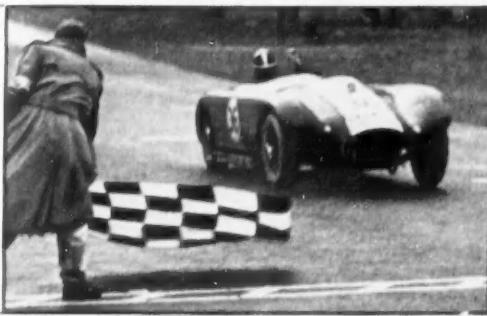
Lyons-Charbonnieres Rally Outright Winner—Hoyle, in an Alfa Romeo. First four places in general classification. Five firsts out of six other class events.

R.A.C. Rally of Great Britain 1st, J. Ray and B. Horrocks—Standard. 3rd, K. Richardson and J. Heathcote, Standard. Team award—Standard team and three class wins.

Photograph by courtesy of "The Autocar"

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THE ESTATE MARKET

NEW APPROACH TO FARM RENTS

WHEN a nationalised industry has been running at a loss for more than a certain time it puts up prices. Similarly, a private concern, when it finds that production costs are outstripping revenue and that there is no apparent prospect of redressing the balance, charges more for the commodity it produces. But owners of farm-land, whose livelihood depends in theory on balancing incomes received from farm rents with expenditure on the provision and maintenance of fixed equipment, are strangely reluctant to ask tenants for more money, although there is ample evidence that few of them are obtaining the "adequate return on capital invested in the industry" recommended by the Agriculture Act of 1947.

FEAR OF LOSING GOOD TENANTS

IF one were to ask a wealthy land-owner why he is content to accept unrealistic rents for his farms he would probably reply that the extra money that he could claim fairly from tenants would make so little difference to his spending income that it was not worth bothering about, and certainly not at the risk of losing good tenants. By adopting this attitude he automatically establishes a low level of rents in the surrounding district.

The reluctance of wealthy land-owners to raise farm rents not only bears hardly on poorer neighbours, but it also presents a problem to those who believe that the future of agriculture rests on a continuance of the landlord and tenant system. But it is a problem that one feels could be resolved without a great deal of difficulty, for, having talked to a number of land agents who have negotiated increases of rent on large agricultural estates in various parts of the country, one is left with a firm impression that few tenants have been antagonised. Indeed it seems that most tenants, and certainly the vast majority of progressive ones, recognise that unless they pay an economic rent they cannot expect the up-to-date fixed equipment on which their livelihood depends.

REVALUATION JUSTIFIED

IF it be accepted and it can scarcely be argued to the contrary that farm rents are hopelessly out of line with rental values, then clearly something ought to be done about it. And what is needed in the opinion of Mr. R. Charles Walmsley, who read a paper on this subject earlier this month to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, is an entirely new approach to farm rents that would be recognised by owners, tenants and valuers and that would be consistently interpreted. Mr. Walmsley does not believe that legislative or administrative alterations are necessarily required, but he does think that something like a general revaluation would be justified on the grounds that since rents were fixed on a fairly even basis in the last century, "great advances have been made in farming techniques, economic conditions have altered out of all recognition and statutory safeguards have been operative since 1948 for securing, by the provision of guaranteed prices and assured markets for farm produce, a stable and efficient agricultural industry."

The difficulty—and Mr. Walmsley admits it readily—is to decide which of the various methods of assessing farm rents are likely to yield the fairest results for the triennial valuations that he suggests. But he is satisfied that application in practice

of the definition already accepted in principle, that the rent properly payable for a holding is the rent obtainable on an open market through a letting to a prudent tenant, whether a new tenant is coming in or whether the holding is, in fact, already let, is a sound basis.

DOUBTFUL BARGAINS

A NUMBER of people make a habit of attending sales in the country, and there is no doubt that remarkable bargains can often be obtained when the contents of a large house are offered at auction. One may, for example, be able to pick up a Georgian writing-table for less than half the money that one would expect to pay in an antique dealer's shop; or one might acquire a complete set of equipment for the garden, including a couple of wheel-barrows, for a trifling sum. Nevertheless, the bargains that one boasts of to one's friends are not always quite what one imagined them to be at the time when one takes into consideration certain extraneous costs. For example, most people like to have a preconceived idea of what they are going to bid for and how much they are prepared to offer, and with these objects in mind they will cheerfully make a round trip of, say, 60 miles in order to attend the preview of the sale. Then, again, if one's purchases are bulky there is the expense of getting them home, and even if one is fortunate enough to have an estate lorry and a man to drive it, the cost of transport will add considerably to the price of the goods. Nevertheless, attending sales at country houses can, and often does, pay dividends, and the farther a house is from a large town, the less likelihood there is of encountering a ring of dealers.

OLD HOUSES IN THE WEST COUNTRY

TWO ancient buildings in Somerset that have changed hands recently by private treaty are Hymerford House, which is situated at East Coker, near Yeovil, and Stavordale Priory, near Wincanton. Hymerford, birthplace of William Dampier, writer and explorer, was mentioned in these notes some months ago when the Government of Western Australia were considering buying the house with a view to transporting it to Perth, the scheme being inspired by the fact that Dampier is believed to have been the first Englishman to have explored the coast of Australia.

Stavordale, which, like Hymerford, was sold by Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's Yeovil office, was originally an Augustinian priory, of which the existing remains are of the Perpendicular period. The building was restored and converted to a private house in 1904.

FACTORIES SOLD

THERE is a strong demand for modern factories, and Messrs. Hampton and Sons probably experienced little difficulty the other day when they disposed of a single-storey factory of about 12,000 sq. ft. in Wandsworth, S.W., for £36,000, the property being let immediately afterwards by the same agents on a full repairing lease of 42 years for £3,750 a year. Warehouses are also keenly sought after, and Messrs. Hampton and Sons, acting with Messrs. W. H. Sutton and Sons, have been concerned in the sales of two in Manchester, one of which, a freehold warehouse and office block realised £58,000, and the other a building of similar type was let subsequently to the Postmaster-General at a rent of £4,050 a year.

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Advertiser's Announcement

BARON TAKES TEA WITH MRS. 'TEDDY' LAMBTON

Anne Lambton, popular town and country socialite, fashion consultant and holder of the title 'One of Britain's Best Dressed Women', takes a moment for this informal study by eminent photographer, Baron. With her is 'Cocoa', reigning monarch in the famous 'Lambton Dynasty' of Pekingeses. Mrs. Lambton is married to Newmarket race-horse breeder and owner, 'Teddy' Lambton, a cousin of the Earl of Durham. She divides a busy life between their charming old country house, Mesnil Warren, Newmarket, and their town flat overlooking Regent's Park.



MRS. LAMBTON: I hope you'll forgive me, Baron . . . just got back from the stables . . . I must have a cup of tea—do you mind?

BARON: Not at all, Anne—unless you plan to drink alone. Let's see . . . last time I was here I photographed your brood mares and foals—remember?

MRS. LAMBTON: Indeed I do. We thought them awfully good. Mother used one of the photos as a Christmas card.

BARON: Did she . . . that deserves a little inside information don't you think? Any good 'uns in the stable this year?

MRS. LAMBTON: Yes, there are two very good two-year-olds in training. One is a sprinter. The other is more likely to make a stayer. But the only dead cert I can promise you this afternoon is a jolly good cup of tea.

BARON: Ah—some rare, exquisite 'Lambton blend', eh?

MRS. LAMBTON: Well, exquisite perhaps, but hardly *rare*. Actually it's Brooke Bond 'Choicest' blend. We think it's delicious and the joy is we can simply order it from the village grocer when we need it. That way it's always fresh. Milk or lemon?

NEW BOOKS

A WRONG WAY WITH LOVE

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MR. RICHARD CHURCH'S *The Dangerous Years* (Heinemann, 15s.) seems to me to be his best novel so far. It has a good ironic theme; this is developed with mature understanding and sympathy; the changing of the scene—England, France, Switzerland—helps to keep interest lively, and the writing is as beautiful as Mr. Church has taught us always to expect of him. The irony is in the contrast between the situation of Mary Winterbourne, a widow of fifty, and that of Joan, her daughter, who is married to a young research physicist. In the nature of things, Joan should be in the young and lusty

invitation to Paris arrived. Mary decided suddenly to accept it and to take Joan with her, and when Dr. Batten met them at the Gare du Nord his brother, Colonel Tom Batten, was with him. Dr. Batten said: "We've put you into an hotel only a stone's throw from home." Colonel Batten was staying at this same hotel.

The Paris scene is beautifully done, both indoors and out. The principal indoor setting is Dr. Batten's home, with his French wife, his bilingual children, and its sense of sanity touched with fever by the boy Adrian, a pianist of genius, adorable as a child, ruthless and dominating as an artist.

THE DANGEROUS YEARS. By Richard Church
(Heinemann, 15s.)

FOR ALL WE KNOW. By G. B. Stern
(Collins, 13s. 6d.)

THE GHOST BOOK. By Alasdair Alpin MacGregor
(Robert Hale, 18s.)

THE RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA YEAR BOOK, 1956
(Royal Horticultural Society, 10s.)

THE BRITISH DELPHINIUM SOCIETY'S YEAR BOOK, 1956
(British Delphinium Society, 7s. 6d.)

DELPHINIUMS FROM SEED. By Ronald Parrett
(British Delphinium Society, 2s. 6d.)

morning of her love, and her mother's "September beauty," though potent still to stir gallantry, should be overripe for rapture. But it was all the other way about.

Mary's husband had been killed in the first World War, and she entered upon "years of forced emotional reserve," building up "a public self-devoted to good works, and a relinquishing of all self-searching emotions, all intimacies, and certainly all passions." One of her husband's fellow-officers is now a doctor settled in Paris. She had visited him once immediately after the war, and on her fiftieth birthday she received his customary annual letter, inviting her, as all the others had done, to come to Paris again. At the same time she received a letter from her daughter Joan, which confirmed what she had suspected—that the marriage had broken down.

PHYSICAL FITNESS MANIAC

No one can call Joan an attractive person. Large and raw, careless in dress and speech, she is a learned loath, showing up badly against her well-dressed and altogether *soufflé* and still beautiful mother. But Mr. Church is skilful enough to present her not as a figure of fun but as an uncertain, troubled and suffering human being. She is convincing. Her husband John is a physical fitness maniac who walks great distances and climbs great heights and skates and skis and hurls himself down mountainsides in bobsleighs. His wife, to him, is something of a Delilah, a sap to manliness. That is the trouble. He is, at the moment, tramping, solitary, happy, and athletically self-righteous, about the Lake District.

That was the situation of these three when Dr. Batten's fifteenth

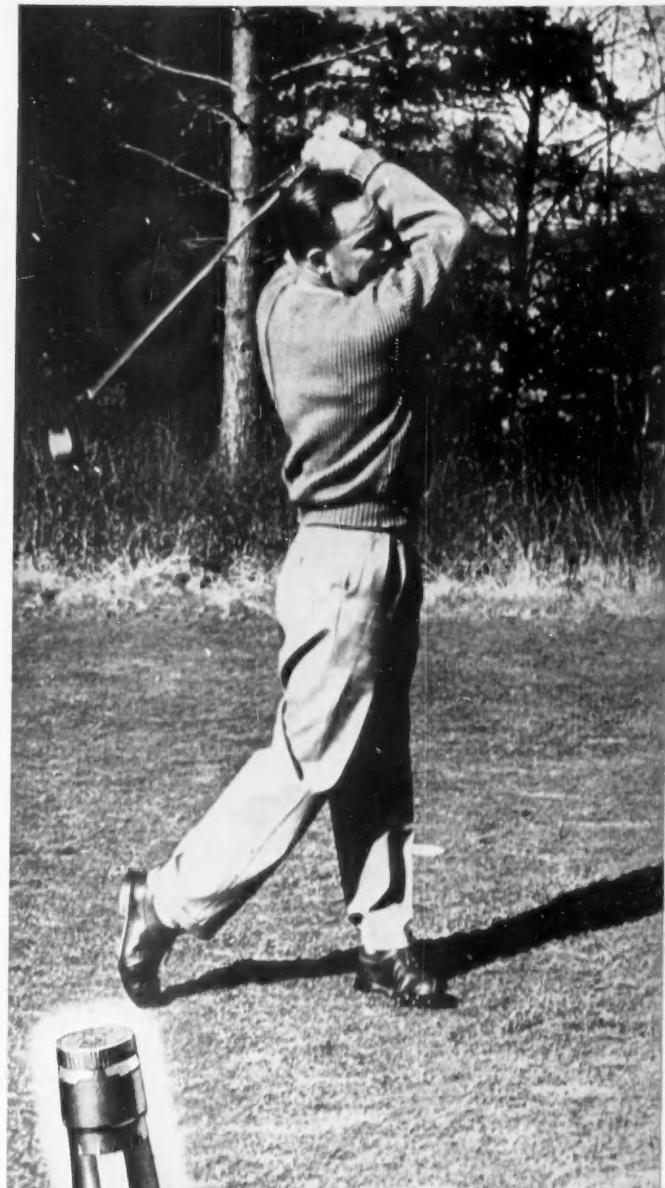
Adrian, who has a decisive effect on what happens later to Joan and her husband, must have been an extraordinarily difficult character to create, but Mr. Church never lets him down (or he Mr. Church?) and he comes through shiningly successful.

There, then, are the circumstances in which Joan, in her time of personal despair, becomes aware of the love which flares between her mother and Colonel Batten, a married man not living with his Catholic wife, who will not release him. We are made to believe utterly in this love affair, and "at the back of this magic the hopelessness of all things out of their time, all belated riches, all those reminders of too much knowledge, murmuring of despair." "Mary knew," Mr. Church writes, "that she must not let Joan see what was happening. The contrast would be too much. Here was the ebb and flow of desire indeed, but all at the wrong times. Peace was to be expected now, at fifty. But instead? She stared at her daughter, her eyes bright, her face the face of a girl. And Joan, gaunt, haunted, hungry and afraid to touch the fruit, stared back at her." Joan knew all right what was going on.

But thanks to Adrian, Joan, too, was to know a fulfilment, though tragically brief, and in the Swiss scenes in which this is brought about Mr. Church's descriptive power is at its height. But he is a master of atmosphere. A restaurant, a park on a dull day, Alpine glory or a domestic interior, he can handle it all and easily wring out its essence. This novel is a fine addition to his ample laurels.

A THEATRICAL FAMILY

Of Miss G. B. Stern's novel *For All We Know* (Collins, 13s. 6d.) we can say that it comes from a pen that has



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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

long known how to make its products readable. It is concerned with one of those prodigious theatrical families whose members are all charm and insincerity and wit, generation after generation, how they hold together as a clan and fly at one another and parody one another's quirks and foibles, but remain somehow essentially big-hearted and lovable. There is a side of the family which is known as the "failure" side, and it is through Gilhan, who belongs to this lot, that the story is assembled. Even as a child, Gilhan was determined to write the history of her illustrious family, listening from the window seat to the cracks and anecdotes and scribbling them down under the pretence of writing letters. Her discovery, as she grows up, of more and more bits of the jigsaw and of their relevance to what, all through her life, she has been trying to say, makes a serviceable canvas for the final picture to be embroidered on.

HAVE GHOSTS BEEN SEEN?

If Tennyson really believed that simple faith is more than Norman blood, he would have had the highest regard for Mr Alasdair Alpin MacGregor whose *The Ghost Book* is published by Robert Hale (18s.), for, in this matter at any rate, Mr. MacGregor's faith could not be simpler. In his introduction he says that "ghost stories, as a rule, suffer from their seldom being first-hand," and this is precisely what most of his own stories suffer from, though he tells them in all good faith as things we should accept. "Old Farmer Robinson, living nearby, often relates how a farm worker he employed sometimes saw this wraith." So there you have it from the farm worker to Old Farmer Robinson to Mr. MacGregor. The book is full of "there is a tradition that" "from time to time, *they say*, her ghost in white has been seen," and suchlike phrases. We are told of a lady whose father "was very friendly with the Bradburys . . . who related to him . . . The Bradburys to the father to the daughter to Mr. MacGregor.

"In the midst of death we are in life" may be the slogan of all the best ghosts, but Mr. MacGregor has not convinced me that in any one of the innumerable instances here set forth — horsemen and royal cavalades, black dogs, white dogs, dogs with monks' heads, page boys, murdered women and so forth — these *revenants* have been seen by a human eye.

A TRUE BELIEVER

It has been written that spiritual things are spiritually discerned, and that is true also of ghostliness. The literal Thomas's sceptical insistence on seeing the wounds, is death here, as in religion, but the man who insists on *seeing* his ghost would think it odd if you attributed that to scepticism in him. There are landscapes and there are houses heavy with haunting, oppressed with ageless sequences of transient humanity. The true believer is alert to them at once and would regard a dog with eyes of fire as a senseless intrusion. Such a true believer is Mr. de la Mare, the most ghostly of our poets past or present, and all his *credo* is in that superb poem *The Listeners*, where the lonely horseman beats on the door and beats again, but "never the least stir made the listeners."

As a compendium of human superstition, human credulity, and the scepticism that wants "evidence" of

things that by their nature cannot be evidential, the book serves a purpose; but it has nothing to do with ghostliness as I understand it.

PLANTS BY THE THOUSAND

It is comforting to come down after this to something so fleshy and substantial as flowers. *The Rhododendron and Camellia Year Book, 1956*, is published by the Royal Horticultural Society (10s.), and it is full of stuff very disturbing to a gardener like me who has to make do with an acre that owner after owner, throughout more than 150 years, has been stuffing with trees and shrubs. Lord Digby, writing of his famous garden at Munsterine, speaks of 350 species of rhododendrons "and at least twice as many hybrids," and here am I, with a birthday due six rhododendrons promised as a present, wandering about to see whether here and there an inch or two is left where they can be inserted. Miss Mildred Blandy has a garden in Madeira, and casually tells us of her camellias that "these plants have now grown to magnificent proportions and must number over 10,000, with many varieties." They are so many that their own flowers make a sufficient mulch.

Then Mr. Lanning Roper drops a word in passing about the azaleas in the Punch Bowl at Windsor Great Park. "By 1950 the planting was completed. How many plants were used? Fifty thousand is a very conservative estimate and it is very possible that the figure is much higher." Raising my head from my writing-pad I look out at the garden and see the spot where the other day I planted two azaleas. At any rate, happily through the recent frost, the mimosa is a golden cloud over them. My rhododendrons do not, like those seen by Dr. MacQueen Cowan at Stonefield in Western Argyll, "seed freely and produce many scattered seedlings throughout the grounds," but at all events here is a book wherein the pauper-gardener may wander happily, sharing in imagination the opulence of kings.

GROWTH OF DELPHINIUMS

At any rate, I have managed to carve out a bed for delphiniums.

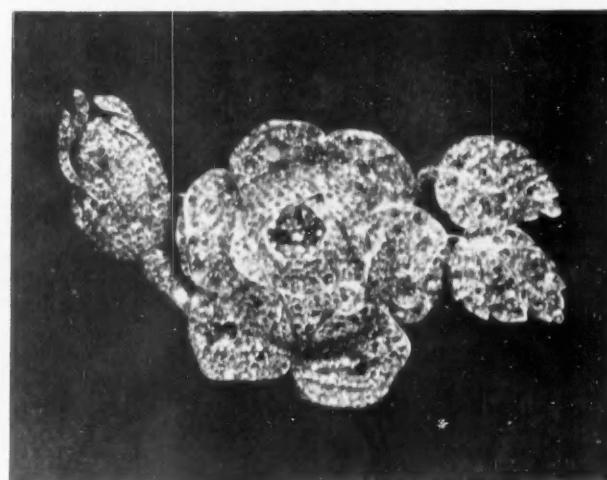
*See measured it from side to side,
Tis three feet long, and two feet
wide.*

as Wordsworth once wrote, an approximate prediction, a slight underestimate. Anyway, why delphiniums? Because of the activity of the British Delphinium Society. The Society has had much to do with the increasing popularity of this wonderful flower, which is literally making enormous strides in both size and range of colour, as we learn from *The British Delphinium Society's Year Book, 1956* (7s. 6d.). Eight foot is a rather unambitious height for a modern delphinium, and if things go on as they are doing now we shall have to view our results through field glasses and take our photographs with telescopic lenses. Even that, I am sure, would present no difficulty to an enthusiast provided with this year book, which explores the question of the delphinium with extraordinary thoroughness and enthusiasm. There is an article here by Mr. Ronald Parrett, called *Delphiniums from Seed* which is a model of what such an article should be, for it assumes that the reader knows nothing, and explains all the processes of culture with a painstaking particularity. This article has also been printed as a pamphlet, price 2s. 6d.

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Dressmaker Details on the Suits

DURING the past decade to be really smart a cloth suit had to be built on the wearer to a precise pattern that closely followed a man's and had as its prime object a man-tailored appearance. This has been gradually changing, and the really chic suit emerging from the couturier this spring must now appear as though it were made by a dressmaker with the softened contours of a dress, though it is still undoubtedly tailored by men and is usually designed by a man. The latest group of suits from the salons differs widely in appearance, as both cut and fabric can be varied by the latest methods of cutting. The lines of the jackets mould the figure with curving yokes, soft collars or collarless necklines, sections inset to outline dipping basques and sleeves set in well below the normal shoulder line. Common denominators are the severe lines of the straight plain sleeves, narrow shoulders and the shorter straight skirts that appear with all the jackets. Collars vary in size from a mere band to a wide shawl folded high round an open neckline, and the sleeves can be cut off at three-quarter length, or be wrist-length, when they end in the narrow flat cuffs of a shirt.

Skirts and jackets are frequently replaced by a dress that has a



(Left) Ivory Terylene is the ideal fabric for the Creole line—a slim skirt topped by a curving jacket, which is cleverly seamed, weighted and stiffened so that it forms a curve at the back and curves outwards at the hem in front. The polo collar of the silk blouse emerges above the jacket (Michael)



A suit in fine cashmere tweed has a stitched basque and a long rounded collar with slits and tabs at the point of the V opening. The ultra-long hand-woven plaid stole is in the same honey colour as the suit and black (Ronald Paterson)



A navy blue and white flecked tweed is used for a classic suit with a stiffened basque. The pocket flaps on the jacket are repeated on the skirt and show below the basque (Hardy Amies)

matching jacket; this is the way the tailor-made is evolving during this present session of fashion. Even the country tweeds are constructed on fluid lines with sleeves set in below the shoulders and inconspicuous collars without any stiffening that curve upwards or are worn like the turn-down collar of a shirt when the jacket buttons from the throat to the waist. The version of a tailor-made that follows the classic formula most closely is the town suit in a fine smooth worsted which often features a fitted waist and plain linked sleeve, but it usually has some embellishment on pocket and collar and a pleat inserted into the back of the jacket. Often the flat man-tailored rever is dispensed with altogether, being replaced by a style that buttons to the throat, or by a collar and revers made in one from a single layer of the fabric stitched but not stiffened.

Victor Stiebel softens the line of

the jackets of his dark town suits by cravats that are inset into the armholes each side in front and fold over the bust in the centre. The jackets then curve into the natural waistline and continue as short fitted basques. A dark grey worsted suit shows an interesting cut; the front of the hip-length jacket is fitted without any emphasis on the waist and the back hangs straight from the shoulder. It buttons from a turn-down collar to the hem with round copper-coloured buttons glistening, as they are cut to many facets.

A device of Ronald Paterson is most effective; a narrow band continues from the rever and follows over the shoulder on the outside of the sleeve down to the bottom of the armhole at the back. His crescent packets form an attractive shape with their curving snug-fitting fronts and slightly billowing backs from the shoulders to the close-fitting hips. Michael's "creole" jacket has been photographed in Terylene for illustration of this article. This shows another treatment of the unfitted jacket, completely different from the straight box jackets that have been favoured for so long and different again from anything with a fitted waist. He also achieves a new look to town suits that have an easy fit to the waists. Revers and collars all in one are cut to a moderately



The perfect town suit is in clerical grey worsted with a black pin stripe. It has braided pockets on the hips and braid on the cuffs, and there is an inverted pleat all down the centre back
(Victor Stiebel at Jacqmar)



A sponge-bag tweed in brown and ivory has a wide-open neck and flat curved unstiffened revers. The sleeves are set in below the shoulder and are three-quarter. The curved basque is stiffened with two slanting pockets (Michael)

low V. At the V point the collar may be split to make two ribbon-like sections, or a soft roll collar fasten on to an inch-wide panel that continues down to just below the waistline, where it divides the cut-away basques in the same way as at the point of the V-shaped neckline. All the basques at this house dip at the back.

THE practical dress and jacket ensemble is favoured by Angele Delangle, who makes them in fine supple tweeds, linen, suiting, facecloth, shantung and surah. A lilac tweed is particularly successful with a jaunty short fitted jacket and a grass green sweater top in fine wool to the dress matching a cravat that folds under the collar of the jacket. A shrimp pink tweed has a similar moulded dress with a collarless top in beige-wool that has a neckline cut to an oval and then slit each side in front. On another of these ensembles the collarless jacket is cut away and filled in by the polo collar of the sweater top on the dress. A Paisley scarf slots through the circular neck of a green facecloth dress and the matching jacket is lined with the Paisley.

This collection includes several elegant presentation dresses; one in bronze wild silk moulds the figure and flows out in moderate gores to the hemline. There are three-quarter sleeves and a V neckline with a bow in front on the waist. A biscuit-coloured brocade is slightly longer at the back of the skirt than at the front. Another is in turquoise with a beige design. A débutante's ball dress in white broderie anglaise has the big skirt gathered in on the hipline and the closely-fitting bodice decorated with vertical lines of tiny white bows of ribbon. This has a square neckline and broad shoulder straps. A bridal dress is equally fresh and crisp, being made from white organza and broad bands of broderie anglaise in a very light pattern which are arranged as tiered flounces on the skirt and make the three-quarter sleeves.



A tweed suit in an oatmeal and brown zig-zag weave has a short jacket with a collar which can be worn up or down and a short basque dipping at the back (Ronald Paterson)

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio

Fair. Outstanding among the fabrics were the supple jerseys knitted in bold cable-stitch, basket or herring bone patterns, or with a sleek suede finish, or a brushed surface. These jerseys do not crease. The dresses keep their shape and so never drop at the hems and they dry quickly. These qualities make them perfect on a holiday. A white sheath dress designed by Spectator in a heavy basket-patterned jersey was one of the most effective items at the display, another was the housecoat of Horrockses made in a fine supple tangerine-coloured jersey with a brushed surface that looks like velvet. The water-repellent velvets also came in for a lot of attention; they are proving an especial boon to the milliners. The stockings ranged from the heaviest non-ladder mesh, lace and the stretch varieties for hard country wear to the flimsiest of gossamer weights with the minimum of reinforcements.

The latest Ballito is a fabulous 75 gauge, 6 denier, produced, the firm wisely points out, for luxury and not to wear every day. The Berkshire stockings have the non-run top ring and toe ring which are narrow bands of lace mesh inserted to prevent ladders above the knee and round the toe. Bear Brand have the excellent idea of knitting some of their sheers with a stretchy crepe foot that is especially comfortable for hot weather and dancing. Charnos make a ladderproof sheer stocking in pinpoint mesh, and purchasers can see marked on the packet the various leg lengths and the distinctive heel designs so that they can easily pick out the one they want.

The crimped nylon swimsuits are another novelty. The method ensures the close comfortable fit that has made the stretch stockings so popular. Nylon sheets have been shown this year in colour and with the seams sewn with nylon. Top sheets have a durably pleated nylon frill to match the pillow-case.

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